

THE North-China Herald

AND SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

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The English mail of 27th January, arrived in London on the 7th inst.

BIRTHS.

At Shanghai, on the 12th March, 1887, the wife of J. M. LAND, I.M. Customs Service, of a son.
At Shanghai, on the 14th instant, Mrs. D. A. DARLING, of a daughter.
At Shanghai, on the 15th March, 1887, the wife of T. LATHAM, Barrister-at-law, of a son.

DEATHS.

At "Windy Harbour," on the 13th instant, ESTHER, the beloved daughter of Captain and Mrs. Suenson.
Le 1er Février, à Paris, Madame VEUVE LEPISSIER, dans sa soixantième année.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.

Per str. *Telamon*, for London—Rev. A. J. Bamford, Mrs. Bamford, Mrs. Lancaster and 2 children, Mrs. Buyers, and Miss Meller.
For Hongkong—Mr. G. D. Boning.
Per str. *Braunschweig*, for Brindisi—Prince Ochtomsky, and Mr. Leo Bergholz.
For Southampton—Mr. A. C. Westall, and Rev. E. Bryant.
For Bremen—Mrs. F. Bielfeld.
Mrs. Mauckich. For Hamburg—Mr. Werner.

For Singapore—Baron Bulzingsloewen. For Hongkong—Messrs. Gonsalves and Legge.

Per str. *Yokohama Maru*, for Nagasaki—Mr. and Mrs. G. Harling, and Mr. Tonnage Riye. For Kobe—H.R.H. Prince Leopold of Prussia, Major von Nickish-Rosny, Dr. and Mrs. E. L. Möllers, Messrs. H. J. Such, W. A. Briscoe and H. Le Roy Lewis. For Yokohama—Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Watson, and Mr. E. Byrnie.

ARRIVED.

Per str. *Peshawar*, from London—Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Cockburn, Messrs. Wingley, Wheeler, Folke, W. Russell, Brock, Dairoch, Demond and Pollard. From Penang—Mr. D. Cromie. From Singapore—Mr. C. Robertson. From Hongkong—Captain Münster, R.D.N., Lieut. Denison, R.N., Dr. MacDonald, Mrs. W. Horton, Messrs. A. R. Craddock Shour and Bredie.

Per str. *Melbourne*, from Marseilles—Mr and Mrs. Heemskerck, 2 children and servant, Madame Rodriguez and 4 children, Miss D. Wood, Don Juan Mesa de la Cerda, Messrs. Lamont, R. W. Mustard, Baulain, Branciard and P. Cuniffy. From Saigon—H.E. Senhor Rodriguez (Spanish Minister.) From Hongkong—Madame Sassoon and infant, Madame Zaccchia, Miss Levy, Mr. and Mrs. Simpson, Messrs. Suidter, D. E. Sassoon, C. H. Hutchings, Dauby, Bigot, Cleggs and Sharp.

Per str. *Satsuma Maru*, from Japan—Messrs. N. Schlessner and G. Harling, Mrs. Nakagawao.

LEAVING.

Per str. *Ozuz*, for Singapore—Messrs. G. Brinkworth, M. and E. Wal. For Marseilles—Rev. F. D. Gamewell, Madame Pichon and child, 2 Sisters, Revs. M. L. Creste and C. Seguin, Madame St. Germain, Madame S. Fellberg, French Opera Troupe of six persons, Mr. N. Schlessner.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, WEDNESDAY, MAR. 16, 1887.

THE patriotic soul of a native resident has been recently touched by the sight of his fellow-countrymen labouring in chains at the Municipal roller, and he has written a letter to the native authorities, demanding the suppression of this barbarism. *Prima facie*, he makes out a good case, so good that some years since one of the *doctrinaires*, who flourished more in the House of Commons in those days than now, brought the cruelty of the Shanghai Municipal Council before Parliament. To those who do not know the facts the chain-gang undoubtedly seems a very severe punishment. More than twenty years ago the then Taotai of Shanghai described it to Consul Winchester. He said, "the prisoners are chained in gangs of from twenty to thirty, and are hardly used by the policeman in charge, who if they stop from fatigue, or do not understand the instruction, flogs them with a wooden staff. Work is not suspended, rain however heavy. For food they receive a small bowl of

cold rice three times a day, and the only drink they get is some cold water in the evening. This treatment is more severe than being put in the caugue."

It only needs a walk along the Band when the chain-gang is at work to see what an over-drawn picture this is. The actual work done is nothing, for there are five or six times as many prisoners harnessed to the roller, as would draw it if they were free labourers; in fact, the chief use of the roller is to act as a drag, and prevent the prisoners escaping, and in this it is not always successful. The prisoners are sufficiently clothed in winter and sufficiently unclotted in summer; they have their fans, their umbrellas, their cigarettes and tea, and they sit down and have a rest and a chat at frequent intervals. But the great complaint is that they "lose face," that is, that their reputation is injured among their friends and acquaintances, by being put in the chain-gang, and the gentleman whom we have first quoted complains, that foreigners are not submitted to the same indignity. Of course, here he is suffering from a confusion of ideas. The Municipal Council has nothing to do with foreign prisoners, who are taken charge of by their respective Consuls, and are provided with hard labour when it is included in their sentence. Instances have been known of people once in a good position in Shanghai being set to dig in the garden, and even whitewash the walls, at the British gaol, a form of labour quite as severe, though not quite so public, as being harnessed to the Municipal roller. The whole question was gone into very fully in 1865, on the occasion of the death of a hard-labour prisoner. The Taotai wrote to Consul Winchester—we have already quoted a portion of his letter—complaining that the prisoner had been killed by the hardships to which he was subjected, and pointing out that the jurisdiction over the Chinese in the foreign settlements still belonged to the Chinese authorities, and had been usurped by the foreigners, and that "there is no such punishment in the Chinese code as hard labour, and it is not agreeable to the treaty that Chinese should be punished with a punishment belonging to a foreign code." Mr. James Hogg, then Vice-Chairman of the Council, had no difficulty in pointing out to Consul Winchester, who had forwarded the Taotai's despatch to the Council,

that the institution of the chain-gang had had a most markedly beneficial effect on the peace and good order of the settlement. It is the certainty, not the weight, of punishment that deters. Formerly, convicts were sent into the city, and if they or their friends had money, they bought their release from prison immediately, which was proved by the fact that in the early days of the chain-gang, before the uselessness of trying corruption was realised, "bribes of from 500 to 1,000 dollars were offered by prisoners at hard labour, for their clandestine liberation." Mr. Winchester took the very sensible course of asking the Taotai to hold a conference on the subject, which took place at the Taotai's yan-en on the 14th of November, 1865, the Acting Taotai, H.E. Ying, Mr. Winchester and Mr. Alabaster, Mr. Seward and Mr. Jenkins, being present, and it was after a short conversation agreed by the Taotai, that the system of hard labour should be continued, under certain precautionary regulations to be framed jointly by the Chinese and English authorities; it having been carefully pointed out that no hard labour was inflicted on prisoners except by the Mixed Court Magistrate, and that therefore there was no infraction of the treaty in the question.

Should the question of the chain-gang come officially from the Taotai again, it will then be only necessary to refer him to the precedent of 1865, and this, with the Chinese respect for precedents, should be enough. There is no desire on the part of any Municipal Council to keep prisoners at all. It is not properly part of their duty, which ought to be limited to arresting criminals and detaining them until trial. The carrying out of sentences has been forced on successive Councils by the unreliability of the Chinese system. It is almost certain that if a prisoner who is sent into the city for punishment is poor, he will be treated much more severely than his sentence, and if rich that he will practically get no punishment at all. If the Municipality takes the prisoner in charge, he will have his sentence fairly executed, whatever it is, and there can be very little doubt that all except the rich prisoners much prefer to be in the hands of our police. Let the native gentlemen who are harrowed by the sight of the chain-gang work to reform the native administration of justice; when they have succeeded in that, the Municipal Council will gladly resign to them the carrying out of hard labour sentences, but not till then.

Summary of News.

The French mail of 30th January arrived here on the 10th inst., by the M.M. Co.'s str. *Melbourne*.

The English mail of 4th February arrived here on the 14th inst., by the P. & O. Co.'s str. *Peshawar*.

A mail leaves to-morrow morning for Europe, by the M.M. Co.'s str. *Ozus*.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

[BY EASTERN EXTENSION E. AND A. TEL. CO.]
(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

SIR MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH.

London, 8th March.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach will remain in the Cabinet without a portfolio.

THE GERMAN ARMY BILL.

The German Army Bill has passed its first reading in the Reichstag.

RUSSIA EXPECTED TO KEEP THE PEACE.

London, 9th March.

The prevalent opinion is that Russia will remain quiescent.

CLOSURE.

The Commons have passed the essential parts of the Closure rules.

THE NEW SECRETARY FOR SCOTLAND.

The Marquis of Lothian has been appointed Secretary for Scotland.

DEFENCES OF HONGKONG AND SINGAPORE.

The army estimates comprise the completion of the defences of Hongkong and Singapore.

THE GERMAN ARMY BILL.

London, 10th.

The German Army Bill has been voted by a large majority.

RUSSIAN IRRITATION AT THE EXECUTION OF BULGARIAN REBELS.

London, 11th March.

Great irritation prevails in Russia respecting the executions of several officers and men belonging to the Bulgarian revolutionary party.

A GOVERNMENT IRISH LAND BILL.

London, 12th March.

The Rt. Hon'ble W. H. Smith, the First Lord of the Treasury, states that the Government will submit an Irish Land Bill in the course of the present session.

ROMOURED ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE THE CZAR.

London, 14th March.

The *Standard* publishes a telegram stating that an unsuccessful attempt has been made to murder the Emperor of Russia, but no details are given.

THE ATTEMPT ON THE LIFE OF THE CZAR DENIED.

London, 15th March.

The rumour of the attempt on the life of the Emperor of Russia is officially denied.

M. DE LESSEPS ON EGYPTIAN AFFAIRS.

M. de Lesseps, after he had an interview with Prince Bismarck, was convinced that the danger of war with Germany was over, but expects serious complications with Egypt unless a date is fixed for the British evacuation.

H. R. H. Prince Leopold of Prussia returned to Shanghai by the *Kiangteen* on Thursday, and left on Friday for Japan in the *Yokohama Maru*. Most of the Germans in Shanghai went down to the steamer to see him off.

Senhor Rodriguez, Spanish Minister to Peking, returned to Shanghai on Thursday by the *Melbourne*, accompanied by Senhora Rodriguez and their children.

Colonel Denby intends leaving Peking about the 1st April. He will go to Formosa via Amoy.

H.E. Li Hung-chang was to leave Tientsin on Friday for Peking in order to accompany the Emperor on his visit to the Mansoles. He will be absent about five weeks.

A telegram was received here on Tuesday afternoon (8th) recording the death of the Rev. Father Beckx. "Men of the Time" gives the following:—"Beckx, Peter John, General of the Jesuits, was born at Sichein, in Belgium, Feb. 8, 1795, and educated for the priesthood. Shortly after receiving priest's orders he was admitted into the Society of Jesus, at Hildesheim, in Oct. 1819. His superiors soon perceived that he possessed rare abilities, and employed him on several delicate missions. When the Duke Ferdinand of Anhalt-Köthen became a convert to the Catholic religion, young Beckx was appointed his confessor, and he officiated for some years as priest of the new Catholic church which was built at Köthen. After the decease of the Duke he continued at the Court with his widow the Countess Julia, whom, at a later period, he accompanied to Vienna. In 1817 he was appointed procurator for the province of Austria, and in this capacity he went to the College of Procurators at Rome. In the following year the Jesuits were temporarily driven from Austria, and consequently Father Beckx, being unable to return to that country, repaired to Belgium, and was nominated rector of the college belonging to his order at Louvain. When the Jesuits were re-established in Austria, he zealously supported the projects of the Government, which were highly favourable to the interests of the Church. He lent his powerful aid to the Primate of Hungary, Cardinal Szeitowsky, who succeeded in obtaining the re-instatement of the Jesuits in that portion of the empire, and founding the noviciate at Tyrnau. Being sent to the assembly summoned at Rome in 1853, to choose a successor to Father Roothian, he was elected Superior of the Order. The success of the Jesuits since that time, especially in non-Catholic countries, is due, in no slight degree, to the ability and foresight of Father Beckx. Besides some minor writings and occasional discourses, he has published a "Month of Mary" (Vienna, 1843), which has passed through numerous editions, and been translated into many languages." The new General of the Jesuits is Father Antonio Anderledy.

The extracts from the *Peking Gazette* which we publish to-day contain a romantic story which might have come direct out of the ancient annals, and has a very anachronistic appearance in these days of repeating rifles and telegraphs. It tells of a rising of the *Man-tzu* aborigines who, accompanied by a lot of Chinese bad characters, made a raid into Yünnan across the River of Golden Sand, as the main feeder of the Yangtze is called. They establish themselves, after various successes, in a stronghold at a place called Kuo Ch'ian An, where the Prefect of Tung-ch'uan Fu surrounded them with a force of regulars and militia. The most interesting point in the recital is the preliminary act of the Prefect; "he drew up a proclamation offering pardon to those who would amend their ways and return to their allegiance, and fastened it to an arrow which was shot into the rebels' stronghold." No doubt there are many precedents in Chinese history for the use of this romantic mode of communication, and if the *Man-tzu* had had a spark of reverence for antiquity, they would surely have surrendered at once, instead of fighting it out, as they did, until they were finally subdued.

The state of literary darkness in which the Mongolian town of Uliastai is kept is painfully set forth in one of the extracts from the *Peking Gazette* in our columns

to-day. The Warden of the Marches whose post is in that benighted town received an order to send to Peking a formal congratulatory address on the recent assumption of power by the Emperor. He had despatched the best congratulatory address he could concoct on the 28th of last November, and he was evidently at his wits' end when the new order reached him. There was no proper paper to be obtained in such an out-of-the-way place, and no precedent at hand to guide him in drawing up the proper address, but the despatch from the Board of Ceremonies could not be ignored. The Warden accordingly wrote out the Address on yellow memorial paper in the form communicated by the Board, put it in a memorial box, and sent it by a special messenger; and it is satisfactory to see that his excuses have been accepted, and that his memorial is endorsed with the Imperial minute; "We have taken cognisance."

The *Hupao* contained on Friday a Decree by the Emperor, dated the 9th instant, announcing his Accession. It recapitulates the successful administration of affairs by the Empress and states that Her Majesty will continue to advise him for a few years. A list of favours, which His Majesty has granted, follows: these refer to worship at the Imperial Mausolea; repair of temples; filial children and chaste husbands and wives to be reported to the Board of Ceremonies; all officials receive a step in rank, and those who have been degraded are replaced in rank; orphans and aged soldiers are to be cared for and roads and bridges throughout the Empire are to be put in proper repair.

The *Hu Pao* stated on Saturday that it has been decided to give a number of young Manchus and Chinese Tais 300 a month, and to send them abroad to study foreign ways and appliances. They will be under the orders of the different Chinese representatives abroad.

Saturday's *Hu Pao* says that the balance in the Board of Revenue is over six millions of taels, including what is left of the foreign loan; there is also Tls. 720,000 in cash, which it is proposed to use for paying the troops. The buildings of the new Board of Revenue are to be repaired and the new issue of cash is to be made by foreign machinery.

The *Shen Pao* says:—The Kashing authorities have issued a proclamation forbidding opium from Shanghai coming there, and insisting on opium only coming from Ningpo. We learn that the Shanghai Taotai has remonstrated with the Kashing authorities, who are simply attempting to levy more *lekin* via Ningpo than they can get on the route from this port.

The Viceroy Li has, says the *Hu-pao*, cashiered a magistrate for forcing destitute Christians to kneel before an idol. The magistrate declined to relieve Catholics with a dose of rice except on condition of undergoing this ordeal. One of the French priests successfully appealed to the Viceroy who at once disclaimed such action.

The *Hu-pao* says that the Foochow authorities have been unable to collect a cent of *lekin* and duty on opium under the new system. They now propose to levy duty on the boiled opium to compensate for their losses, an has long been done in Canton. There is a great scarcity of cash in Foochow and much difficulty in getting respectable banks to reopen after the late disturbances. At Soochow a proclamation has been issued forbidding the opening of opium shops. The *Shen-pao* says that junks are fitting out at Amoy to import opium direct from Hongkong and smuggle it along the coast. The same paper says that an earthquake occurred at Foochow on the 4th instant passing from East to West.

The *Shenpao* of Monday, gives a correspondence between the Mixed Court Magistrate, the Assistant Prefect, Tase and the Taot'ai upon the subject of employing Chinese criminals at the roller in the

chain-gang. This is not to be allowed in future, as it is a disgrace to Chinese honour seeing that only Chinese criminals are thus paraded.

The *Hu-pao* of Monday says that an attempt was made to squeeze Tls. 20,000 wine-money out of the late Hoppo of Canton at the Tung-pien gate of Peking. He got off for Tls. 8,000 through the intercession of one of the Ministers of State. The Hoppo then gave Tls. 10,000 to the Admiralty for which he received a No. 1 button. Later on he subscribed Tls. 40,000 more, for which he was put down on the list of *Tutungs* or Captain-General.

The Viceroy of Canton has memorialised the Throne in favour of the abolition of the monopoly in Cassia bark and of a uniform tax of 5 mace per picul on it, payable by the grower, free passage to Canton and Pak-hoi, the bark to be subject at these ports only to export duty. The Board concerned is to take cognisance.

The *Shipao* says that the Viceroy of the two Hs, seeing the scarcity of cash at Hankow, sent two weiyuens to Shanghai to ascertain the cost of foreign machinery for coining. Finding that a cash mint would cost Tls. 20,000, the Viceroy has determined to use native methods and apparatus, and each cash will contain 70 per cent. of copper, 20 of lead, and 10 of sand.

From time to time something of the intentions of the Hongkong Government regarding the arrangement come to last summer about the collection of opium duty and *lekin* has leaked out. We learn that the Colonial Government intend to pass an Ordinance making it illegal to sell less than a chest of opium, and that preventive measures are to be adopted by the Colony by which it is hoped that the carriage or smuggling of small quantities of drug will be stopped. No one is to be allowed to be in possession of less than a chest of opium without taking out a pass; and the police or some body similar to the *lekin* runners who have given so much trouble here, are to have the right of searching individuals and vessels of all kinds. By these means and by the cordon of cruisers which will be maintained around Hongkong, it is hoped by the Chinese that smuggling will be choked out. We have no objections to this end being obtained, and the full revenue to which China is entitled passing into her coffers. But we have no belief in the measures we have indicated or any others which depend on opium farmers and Customs' men being effective. The duty and *lekin* are too high, they would tempt almost any one to smuggle, even a citizen of the United States might forget his treaty obligations and become a 'free trader.' And the danger is that a part, and a very considerable part too, of the opium trade will be diverted altogether from Hongkong, and landed by junks at convenient places on the coast. There are hundreds of venal officials in this country who, for a small consideration, would shut their eyes to the most gigantic schemes of smuggling on the coast and rivers, just as they do to the organised and open smuggling of immense quantities of native drug all over the country. Probably all that native opium pays as taxes are the squeezes of officials and these are few probably not more than a fourth to a third of the whole duty and *lekin* on foreign drug. Intentionally or not it looks very like as if the English Government had consented to measures intended to destroy the Foreign opium trade. What they have left undone to accomplish this the Customs and Chinese officials are completing; we hear of new licenses fees being exacted, and a contravention of the Additional Article or the Chefoo Convention has been effected here, by the imposition of a small fee on the hulks in which the opium is stored. The Chinese officials are determined to get everything they can out of the opium trade, and they are in a hurry.

On Thursday evening a farewell entertainment was given at the Temperance Hall in connection with the Union Church, on the departure of Mr. and Mrs. Bamford for England. The programme was a very good one, and much credit is due to the choir. The anthems were very well sung, and well supported by Mrs. M. V. Lancaster's sweet alto, who for the first time came out in that voice. We understand she is also leaving for England, and she will be greatly missed in the Union Church choir.

The Seaman's Mission has been quietly working in Shanghai for some time past. Miss Fowles is the Seamen's Missionary, and the Society consists of the Rev. L. D. Gulick, President, Mr. A. Mathieson, Hon. Treasurer, Mr. H. Newcomb, Hon. Secretary, and a number of subscribers. During the year 1886 Miss Fowles has personally conducted 200 meetings, at which some 3,000 people attended. The Committee tender their thanks to Mr. Grimmer of the Temperance Hall for the almost free use of a room to hold the meetings in. The Society has just now 41 subscribers who pay \$1 a month, out of which amount the Missionary's salary has to be paid. The report concludes as follows:—"We should be glad of further assistance in any of the following ways:—Papers and magazines for the Reading-room; old papers and magazines to be given away to the sailors; German and Scandinavian papers and magazines will also be useful. Left-off men's clothing of every description—outer and under—muffs, cuffs, and socks are also very acceptable, all of which should be sent to Miss Fowles, Temperance Hall. Helpers who will go out into the highways and on board the ships to invite men to the meetings are much needed. Friends willing to become subscribers of \$1 or more monthly will please send their names to Mr. Mathieson, Hon. Treasurer, Seamen's Mission, Shanghai, and 13 Kiangse Road, Makalee Terrace, who will also be glad to receive donations in aid of the mission. Mr. Newcomb, s.s. *W. Cores de Vries*, will receive subscriptions, and donations from friends at the River Ports.

The Volunteers had their first parade this season on Saturday afternoon and mustered about 135 all told. They wore their new helmets, which, if not so handsome as the old ones, are much more useful, for they afford good protection to the back of the neck. Major Morrison was in command, but was only in undress uniform, which was remarked upon by some of the sightseers. Having been put through a number of evolutions in the Police Compound, the Force marched out to the Race Course where the Artillery fired some shots in course of practice, and the whole force went through a number of movements. It was noticed how excellent the Police arrangements were, the Police Compound being kept clear of everybody except Volunteers, and on the Race Course the Chinese were entirely excluded, thus giving the Volunteers plenty of room to manoeuvre in. While a resident was leaning over the rails, wholly intent on criticising in a lively and audible manner the movements of the Volunteers, inside the Race Course, his support gave way and he plunged into the moat, up to his shoulders. When he was pulled out by his friends he was in a very limp condition, and did not seem at all to appreciate the hilarity of the onlookers.

Two detachments of Artillery were out to the "Point" on Sunday for target practice. They got back to the Settlement at half-past six in the evening.

At the annual meeting of the Shanghai Light Horse Volunteer Corps, held on Thursday evening, which was fully attended, it was proposed by Lieut. de Malherbe and seconded by Lieut. Dunn that Adjutant T. F. Hough shall be elected to the Captaincy of the troop. This was carried

unanimously, at the same time much regret was expressed at the loss the troop sustained through the unavoidable retirement of Captain Keswick, who has devoted so much attention to its welfare since its establishment on its present basis.

It is pleasant news for Shanghai generally, and for the lovers of vocal music in particular, that the Choral Society, which has been practising regularly and conscientiously since its foundation last summer, is about to give a concert, and that the concert will be given before the departure for home of our leading lady vocalist. In default of the Town Hall, which we hope to see built before long, the Masonic Hall has been chosen as the most suitable place, and the Committee has decided to charge the nominal admission fee of fifty cents. As to the propriety of charging an admission fee there can surely be no question. The subscription to the Society, twelve dollars a year, is by no means a trifle, and the sum so gathered is required for the hire of room and piano for the practices, to pay for the lighting and the salary of the conductor, M. Vela, and to buy music. When a sufficient stock of music has been collected, the society will no doubt find it well to reduce the subscription; but meanwhile it is obvious that it would be unwise to trench upon its funds to the extent necessary to pay the expenses of a concert, and the proposed admission fee of fifty cents was expected to produce enough to cover the hire of the hall and the incidental outlay for the proposed concert. It is a little astonishing then to hear that there is a strong opposition to the charge among a section of the members, some thinking it beneath the dignity of the society to charge at all, and others pretending to think it beneath their own dignity to take part in a fifty-cent show. It is even stated that one enthusiastic member offered to pay the whole expenses of the concert out of his own pocket. The offer is, of course, quite unacceptable; the Society is not in any form a charity; and it would be undoubtedly beneath its dignity to accept even so well-meant, if ill-considered, a suggestion. These are still a few people in Shanghai whose recollection of the old three-dollar days leads them to think that there is something incongruous in an amateur society's admitting the public to hear them sing at fifty cents a head. The objection is quite unreasonable; all the Society wants is to take enough from the public to pay the actual expenses of the concert, which a charge of fifty cents will cover; and no one is likely to enjoy the concert less, or hold a less exalted opinion of the singers, because the charge for admission is fixed at a rate as appropriate to the times as three dollars was to the circumstances of Shanghai twenty years ago. It will be a great pity if the first Concert of the revived society should have its harmony impaired by a discussion over of so comparatively unimportant a question. But we have every hope that the difference of opinion which the proposal of the Committee has evoked will disappear on a little reflection. We would wish the largest possible number of people to enjoy the concert, and that all who desire to attend should be able to do so, without either having to depend on the kindness of members of the Committee for tickets of admission, or being obliged to ask the favour of these being given them. There are many who do not know members of the Committee and more who would not care to ask for tickets; and besides it is unfair to the Committee to place them in the ungracious position of having to refuse tickets to some of their friends, as they would be sure to have to do. In every way the proposal to charge a small admittance fee is looked at, the proposed charge must recommend itself. And in the general interest we hail with great satisfaction the prospect of amusements being cheapened here, and hope that this is but

the beginning of more sensible charges than have hitherto prevailed. We believe that moderate charges for admission will be to the benefit of entertainment-givers of all kinds as well as to the public.

The Committee of the Choral Society decided at their meeting yesterday that the charge for admission to their concert should be fifty cents, and that the surplus proceeds should be given to a local charity; but it seemed to be thought that the Jubilee celebration could hardly be brought into that category, and that the international composition of the Society rendered it inadvisable to wind up the announcement of the entertainment with the pious aspiration, "God save the Queen!" We trust that the popular price which has been wisely decided on will bring together a large audience, which the programme to be presented will fully justify.

If the excellence of a preventive service is proved by the number of fines and confiscations recorded in a year, the Chinese Foreign Customs must be a remarkably good service, for the few pages that used to be devoted to this interesting department, in every quarterly issue of the returns have grown into a portly volume of 246 pages of small type, in which a whole year's work is contained. Unfortunately, though the book contains a year's records, the arbitrary arrangement in quarters is retained, so that instead of one section for each treaty port, there are four, or seventy-six sections in all instead of nineteen, and an unnecessary waste of time is caused to any one who wishes to consult the records of a particular port. It is not only the revenue that gains by the strictness of the preventive service shown by this book; every honest trader is injured by the success of a smuggler, and is benefited by the smuggler's being caught and fined. Even the constant imposition of fines ranging from five to twenty taels on the captains of the mail and other home steamers, for handing in false manifests, has a beneficial result for merchants; for small as the fines are, they tend to make the captains and agents of the steamers more careful not to leave behind at other ports goods that ought to be brought on here. We do not propose to go into any details of the contents of the book, which would have been more useful if the compilers had added a summary for each of the ports; on the whole the offences against the revenue that are discovered are of a very trivial nature, the Chinese mind apparently not soaring to large evasions, or not being found out when it does. Fines and Confiscations together mount up in Shanghai to the respectable sum of over Tls. 22,000; but this is not a large percentage on the total amount of duties collected in this port in a year. It is satisfactory to see that the names of foreigners appear very rarely among the offenders, and when they do appear, it is nearly always as acting for Chinese. Salt, opium and fire-arms are the goods which mainly form the prey of the seizing officers in Shanghai, while there is a good deal of false declaration of weights, goods being sometimes declared below their real weight, so as to reduce the duty payable, and sometimes above it, so as to increase the drawback receivable. In Canton the total of fines and confiscations for the year amounted to over Tls. 35,000, contraband goods such as salt, saltpetre and brimstone being discovered on nearly every steamer from Hongkong, with as frequent attempts to run small quantities of opium, and a good many goods being clandestinely landed. After all, it is not very easy to see what is the value to anyone but revenue officials of the full details given in this book, but it would be interesting, if it were possible, to know what proportion these seizures bear to the successful evasions of the revenue.

Close upon Tls. 780,000 in gold and sycee arrived here in the first nine steamers

from the north. Of this amount, over Tls. 222,000 was in gold.

The *Sin Nanzing* brought from the North treasure to the value of Tls. 105,807.

The *Chungking* made a very good run down from Taku, namely in 51 hours 10 minutes. From midday on Wednesday to midday on Thursday, she ran 332 miles.

The *Kiangpian* arrived here on Saturday from Wenchow. She brought \$227,000. This is a large sum of money to be exported from a small place like Wenchow. Most of the dollars are chopped.

The *Rocket* returned from the wreck of the *Wan-nien-ching* on Wednesday, the divers having recovered \$500, the ship's wheel, and a bell. No bodies were found in the hold.

The British 3-masted schooner *Wandering Minstrel* was put up to auction at Hongkong on the 7th, and was bought in at a price below her actual value, no acceptable offer being made for her.

The carpenter of the P. & O. Co.'s steamer *Coromandel* fell overboard at noon yesterday. The Chief Officer of the vessel, Mr. Bennett, witnessed the accident, and without any hesitation jumped overboard and gallantly rescued the drowning man. Mr. Bennett deserves great credit for his praiseworthy action, and recognition of his conduct at the hands of the Royal Humane Society.

Some days ago, a number of soldiers were arrested by the Police for trying to "squeeze" a boatman. The soldiers had a warrant to search all boats coming from Woosung for firearms, and pounced upon a boat in the Sochow Creek and pretended they had found a weapon on board. The boatman, who was an old hand, gave the soldiers in charge of the Police. They were taken to the Mixed Court and eventually it was arranged that they should be punished by their commander and dismissed the service. The punishment was inflicted on five of them on Friday afternoon in the presence of Inspector Charters, two of them receiving twenty-five blows each.

The 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes in the Manila Lottery this month have fallen respectively to numbers 17,504; 17,901; and 23,057.

The Exhibition at Hanoi is to be opened on the 15th of this month, and it is proposed to establish a special service of steamers between Hongkong and Hanoi for the conveyance of passengers at reduced rates, and granting return tickets available till the end of June.

We regret to hear of the suspension of a well known house in Manila, Messrs. Peele Hubbell & Co., and of the rumoured difficulties of others in the same place.

Le Saigonais says:—The *Melbourne* which left Marseilles on the 30th January last has on board two balloons for Peking, one of 600 cubic metres and the other of 3,000 cubic metres. These balloons are accompanied by Mr. Pillas-Panis, aeronaut, who is to take charge of the Chinese aeronautic military Park, recently created by the Government of China. They will be filled by means of pure hydrogen gas M. You, the engineer who constructed the balloons, has erected a generator on the top of a car. Experiments were made with the balloons at the Champ de Mars, Paris. M. You proved that captive balloons can be kept in the air in a vertical position. The ingenious process by which he accomplishes this consists in placing on the balloon a sort of trapeze on which there rests a cable. Twenty ascents were made and on each occasion the balloon carried two or three persons to heights varying from 300 to 400 metres.

The *Hongkong Telegraph* learns on the best authority that the Viceroy of the Two Kuang has agreed to remove the obstructions in the Canton river without unnecessary delay, and is now considering the best method of effectively carrying out the work.

Miscellaneous Articles.**THE PEKING ORIENTAL SOCIETY.**

OUR readers, who have heard a good deal lately of the proceedings of the Peking Oriental Society will be scandalized to learn that an attack has been made on that erudite body in the pages of our northern contemporary. Some one, writing under the comparatively modern name of "Proteus," has attacked the Society, in whose solemn retreats the sages of the Capital revel in guesses into the secrets of what the profane vulgar call a misty and musty antiquity. Imbued with the modern spirit which demands that every institution shall be able to prove its usefulness, or get out of the way, "Proteus" starts by accepting some dicta of the *Chinese Times* that the Peking Oriental Society stands in need of urgent reform. "Scarcely, he says," had we recovered from the fit of mortal depression brought on by the visitation (we use the word in its Biblical sense) of February 7th, which was the prime motor of the expression of opinion above referred to, than we heard that for our sins we must yet atone by a further scourging, and that the paper on "The Evolution of the Chinese Language" was about to be followed by another on the "Evolution of Moral Law." The writer then goes on to rejoice, in the flippant modern way, at hearing that the learned lecturer had abandoned his idea of expounding his theories of moral law to a more or less indifferent audience. He did not wish, the philosophical member of the Peking Oriental Society is represented to have said, to have somebody get up and comment on a paper, which was to take two nights in the reading, by "telling a story of a snake." Every one will enter into the feelings of the lecturer and appreciate the dignity of his reply, and the wiser members of the Peking Oriental Society will keep before their eyes the experiences of the branch of the Royal Asiatic Society which is established here. Whenever that Society has attempted to instruct in actual living knowledge, and its members have sought amusing and modern themes, the public has gratefully and numerous attended its meetings. And this uninstructed public, ignorant of those mysteries in the Chinese tongue which have reduced so many western minds to that condition which Mr. Wingrove Cooke, we believe, was the first to diagnose and describe, filled the halls of our Society with pleasant faces, laughter was heard in them, instead of the familiar gloom broken only by "deep calling unto deep." This, the choicer spirits in Peking, those who "recite long selections from the classics," in each dot and stroke of which there are food for battles of intellectual gods, this they no doubt will prevent. We would not have the Peking Society understand from what we have said that our own Royal Asiatic is often amusing; months sometimes go by without anything of that kind happening,

and at these seasons a few pilgrim feet wend their way to the Society's rooms, and a select, if limited audience, makes itself comfortable on themes as old as the flood. Time was, some twenty years ago, when, as we have said before, the meetings of the Royal Asiatic Society were eagerly looked forward to by crowded audiences. But that only occasionally happens now. Nevertheless there is a distinct danger to those who, having drunk deep of the Castalian spring of the Chinese classics and tongue, wish to preserve the enjoyment of both to the few. The spirit which animates "Proteus" would probably be found in other bosoms here, and, indeed, we think we have already heard something not unlike his cry from Peking:—"The P. O. Society 'is doing harm, not only in prevailing on learned men to waste valuable time in writing unseizable papers, but in inducing others to waste perhaps equally valuable time in listening to them.'" The only satisfactory thing in this utterance of "Proteus" is that he has said nothing of the waste of time and the suffering which those endure who have to read the reports of the meetings of the Peking Oriental Society. There is some hope therefore that he does not wish to make the Oriental Society a popular institution, but will be satisfied if it is reformed so as to fulfil the object with which it, in his opinion, exists. What that is may be learned from his own words. "The office of the Society is, we presume, the teaching by those who are considered able of those who are considered, or who consider themselves, less able—the general advancement of knowledge, in fact." This statement of the office of the Society will no doubt be repelled by some one of its higher spirits, for nothing could be more opposed to the reports of proceedings at its meetings this year, so far as those have been made known to the world.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF UPPER BURMA.

THE Official Report of the administration of the two Burmas for 1886 has been published by the Indian Government. That section which is devoted to Upper Burma commences by describing the territory, including the Shan States, as covering nearly two hundred thousand square miles, of which area, approximately one half pertains to the Shan States and one half constitutes Upper Burma proper. Lower Burma bounds this territory to the South; on the West and North-west, between the British provinces of Arakan, Chittagony, Assam and the feudatory State of Manipur, are several semi-civilized tribes who have never come under the control either of the British or of the late Burmese Government. On the North and North-east, Upper Burma is bounded by Chinese territory, and tribes, described as subordinate to China. But between Upper Burma and Chinese territory proper on the north-east is a

belt of country inhabited by predatory tribes of Kachings, who may be geographically within the empire of China, but who in reality pay no allegiance to anybody. The Shan States on the eastern border of Upper Burma proper used to be dependencies of the Ava dynasty, but in the late King's time they had more or less thrown off Burman domination. The last dynasty was founded in 1752 by a dacoit leader, whose authority extended over the whole of Burma, including Arakan, Pegu and Tannaserim, to the sea and the borders of Siam. In 1826 and 1852 the descendants of this King were stripped of large portions of their territories, only what is now known as Upper Burma remaining to them. The misconduct of Thebaw led to the expedition of 1885, and the absorption of his kingdom into the Indian Empire. The chief work of the year in the pacification and organizing of the country has fallen on the officers and men of the army. The average number of troops employed in Upper Burma during the year was about 14,000 but in December there were 25,000. From the 17th November 1885 down to the 31st October 1886, 11 officers and 919 men had died from disease, 76 officers and 1,956 men—exclusive of those in one regiment—had been invalided, making a total wastage of 3,053 men. Many of the invalided men returned to the ranks after a shorter or longer sojourn in India. The climate is called deadly in some places where the troops were, and not without reason.

Among the first steps taken in the administration of the new possession was the formation of districts under civil officers. These districts were originally twelve, but were afterwards increased to fourteen, and they were supposed to correspond as far as possible with the old civil districts of Burmese times. The extension of our influence and the reduction to order of parts of districts remote from headquarters has however only been gradually effected. The civil officers were given the full powers of Deputy Commissioners; as far as possible the Indian Criminal Acts were brought into force, dacoity or murder was made punishable by death, but magistrates were instructed to pass capital sentences only in very heinous cases. No capital sentence was allowed to be carried out except after confirmation by the Chief Commissioner. In revenue matters the customs of the country were as far as possible observed. The results of these regulations are given at considerable length in the history of each district for the year, in which the difficulties which had to be met and overcome are detailed. In Mandalay, intrigues by the hangers on of the former Court, disorders, dacoities, robberies, extensive fires and a disastrous flood, were only some of the difficulties of government. Yet it says a good deal for the administration of Mandalay

and the district, that a not single case of disorder occurred in the city on the night when the inundation happened. After that time efforts were made, and with success, to enlist the sympathies of the people in the cause of order. With two exceptions, dacoities in the neighbourhood, the Bhamo district has been quiet during the year, and trade has been uninterrupted. Orders were issued for the disarmament of the country, but persons of proved loyalty are allowed to retain their arms after they have been numbered and marked by the Commissioner, for it has been found that while the possession of one or two muskets is a source of danger and a temptation to dacoity the possession of a moderate supply of arms by loyal householders affords them means of self defence. But these loyalists are not allowed to carry arms, they are only allowed to use them in self defence. All the Report give satisfactory evidence of the restoration of order throughout the country.

The chief public works undertaken throughout the year have been military buildings and the improvement of roads. The railway from Toungoo to Mandalay has been undertaken. The distance is about 240 miles, and the cost is estimated at 183 lacs of rupees, which is, at an exchange of $\frac{1}{6}$ per rupee £1,372,000—say £5,700 a mile. New lines of water communication are to be opened up, and on existing routes the Flotilla Company have done much more since the annexation than they did before. A scientific examination of the mineral resources of the province has been begun by the Geological Survey, and pending the completion of that examination some facts have been ascertained. There are the ruby districts, the headquarters of the mines in which were occupied in December; of gold and silver mines nothing trustworthy is known; jade is found in large quantity, and there are several coalfields. The productions of the country are agricultural. The revenue was partially collected last year; the monopolies from which the late King derived most of his revenue have been given up; for instance, the monopoly of the importation of pickled tea from the Shan States, from which £75,000 was received annually. The capitation tax, rent of royal lands and the irrigation tax will be the chief sources of revenue this year, and something of the annual tribute is expected from the Shans. The forests are let on royalties. On the whole a perusal of this quietly drawn-up business like Report leaves the impression on the mind that much good and lasting work has been done by the Services in Upper Burma, and that the future of the people and country will be better than their past.

THE POSITION OF EUROPEAN POLITICS.

The January number of the *Fortnightly* contained the first of a series of articles on the present position of European

politics. Germany was the subject of that article, and the next is upon France. The author is said to be Sir Charles Dilke, and besides the ample acquaintance with the politics of Europe which is displayed, there are some peculiarities which seem to indicate him as the writer. He is an intense admirer of the late M. Gambetta, and is apt to take rather a French than an English view of affairs when the interests or the politics of the two countries come into collision, and this Sir Charles Dilke often did when Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs. In the article on Germany there are a few points which we shall notice before proceeding to the one on France, as they will help us to understand the other one better. After pointing out the clearness and simplicity of Prince Bismarck's policy, the writer shows that Germany occupies a vulnerable military position in the centre of Europe, with no strong military frontier, and that she has bound herself by a defensive league to Austria, the weakest of the three great military Powers, the others being Russia and France, he says:—France, indeed was willing for some years to take her policy humbly and submissively from Berlin, but France so long as Alsace and half Lorraine, are German cannot be bound to Germany, in such a way as not to turn upon her as soon as she is sufficiently strong. Later on in the article the author estimates the military power of France and Germany. The former has done a fabulous amount of military work since 1870; she has built miles upon miles of fortresses, behind which the least instructed of her men could fight. She believes she has a force of 3,408,000 instructed and 701,000 untaught men, or 4,109,000 in all. These figures are subject to great deductions, and the author considers that France possesses an army of $2\frac{1}{2}$ millions men, with artillery and cavalry proper for an army of 2 millions, able at once to stand in line on the frontier, and to carry on simple though not complicated movements in the field. Germany would put on the ground a force very inferior in numbers, if the whole reserves on both sides are counted, but she has more thoroughly trained men, and in the event of a complete mobilisation her forces would be more easily handled; but the German staff doubt whether Germany could make any but a merely defensive war against France. A violation by Germany of the guaranteed neutralisation of Belgium would, however, put the former power more on an equality with her rival, and the increase in her army lessens whatever difference there may be between them. The two rivals are now too strong for each other, and neither could invade without passing through Belgium. The French frontier is now one great earth-work, it has been made as strong by art as it is weak by the nature; for sixty miles in a stretch every single spot is under defensive fire by heavy guns.

In the article on France the personality of General Boulanger occupies a prominent place; and the author does not think that it in any way affects the situation of France in Europe, and her probable future. A very considerable time ago the author asked a friend who was going to Paris to find out for him, whether General Boulanger was a man, a soldier, a mountebank or an ass. The report was of no great practical value, because it was to the effect that the "Bonaparte without a victory" was at once all four. But, although he is not wanting in the circus element, he has shown by his last considerable speeches that his English blood is strong in him and that he is not a man as the French say "to break windows." Gambetta used to speak of him as one of the four best officers in France, but he put him rather below than above at least two of the four. His conduct to the Duc d'Aumale last year has done him no harm, and the author states simply—expecting to be disbelieved—that his personal popularity in France is greater than that enjoyed by any man since Napoleon was at the height of his power, with the possible exception of Lafayette, at the moment of the Revolution of 1830. He does not consider General Boulanger a danger to peace, because a war in which the first events made the issue doubtful would probably be fatal to his popularity, and he is not likely to risk this, but acknowledges that the General who brought back Alsace or Belgium, would have supreme power, but under Republican forms. The General may however be forgotten in a few years, as so many first class men in France are at the present time. France, while strong in her army and navy cannot rely upon friendships. The Emperor of Russia detests the Republic, the Sultan now merely follows the Russian lead; but where in Europe has France now any real friends? The more or less inimical or at the best guarded position which the other Powers occupy to her is dealt with at length, particularly that which the French demands regarding the evacuation of Egypt have forced on the English Cabinet. Our whole dealings with that country in recent times are very fairly described, and one fact is brought out clearly, that M. de Lesseps has exercised a mischievous influence on French policy. The writer also shows that the best French statesmen have been opposed to the later policy, which the endeavour to maintain their position at home forced upon them. It was the Suez Canal which M. de Freycinet had in his mind when he talked of Egypt, and the author maintains that there is little difference between the views of England and France about its future neutralisation. The former Power has twice made proposals to secure by an international agreement the freedom of the Canal, both in peace and war, at all times and for all ships,

whether of trade or war. France can come to an agreement with England whenever she pleases, and if she uses language of insistence it is only for the purpose of breaking through a door which is already open, so as to be able to celebrate a triumph. This has been the French policy throughout; she has used somewhat menacing language with no intention of going to war for Egypt; her Cabinets have played to the pit. The author makes what he calls a rather startling statement, but one which he says is perfectly true—that the Canal has been neutralised from the first and is neutral at this moment. Its neutrality is read into the original firman by a reference to the Act of Concession, and the action taken by France during the Franco-German war constituted an admission of this neutrality. The paper further shows the irritating policy pursued by France—sometimes instigated by Prince Bismarck—towards England, in other parts of the world. It deals also with her Colonial Policy, and says that French subjects in French possessions outside of France and Algeria cost the mother country £1 per head, English subjects, outside the British dominions, costing only 2d. per head. Besides its costliness the Colonial policy has increased the work to be done by the army and navy; given hostages to England, who would be able to cut the communication between France and all these possessions, in case of war; incurred the lasting resentment of the Australian colonies of Great Britain, which will one day form the third power in the world. What France has done in Tunisia has irritated Italy, and the Tongking policy has increased the chance of China joining England, whenever France joins Russia. But while pointing out that China is now too strong for France to take Peking without a fight that would greatly reduce her continental power, the writer adds: "But France could, single-handed, still take Peking, because the Chinese will not yet make intelligent modern use of their splendid men, and their officers are still silly beyond description." We have only been able to quote a little of these remarkably able papers, the careful perusal of which we recommend to our readers.

THE FRENCH MAIL-PAPERS.

EVEN a reasonable reader might say that the papers received yesterday want interest, and unreasonable people should be excused if they say there is nothing in them. Most of the articles in the *Saturday* on political and general topics treat of affairs and incidents that have been settled or have arranged themselves, and are therefore not very engrossing reading. The opening paper "On the Coming Session" is commonplace, and attributes to the Opposition that it is prepared to accept the whole policy of its "distinguished" allies—the Nationalists—and therefore a complete deadlock may be brought about. If the telegram which we publish to-day is correct and the House of Commons has passed the new rules of closure, that can only have been accomplished by the concurrence of the

Opposition. At any rate neither the Opposition nor its "distinguished" allies—have inverted commas taken the place of italics in journalistic sarcasm?—have obstructed business this session so as to produce a deadlock. The debate on the Address in reply to the Royal Speech instead of occupying six weeks or more, as in some previous sessions, was passed in reasonable time, and a more ticklish matter seems to have progressed well. It may be that Mr. Gladstone, finding himself as in 1875 and for a year or two afterwards, confronted by unbending opponents, ready to vote against anything which finds favour with him, has remained away a good deal from the House. He did not vote for instance, on Mr. Parnell's amendment on the State of Ireland. There is some sound sense in the concluding sentences of the *Saturday* leader, and, whatever readers may think of that journal's politics and modes of dealing with opponents, it is to its credit that it has in late months strenuously called on the Conservatives to be Conservatives and not to ape the Radicals. At the same time when the Radicals are Radicals the paper gets bilious and angry. "A Dramatic Legal Entertainment" is a sharp lecture to the lawyers who were engaged in the case of Miss Roselle against Mrs. Conover—*Punch* has a skit on the same subject:—

Mr. Lockwood, Q.C., M.P., was the principal performer, and it is only fair to say that, if Thespis is to take the place of Themis, under the patronage of Her Majesty's counsel learned in the law, Mr. Lockwood is much better qualified for his part than most of his professional brethren. He can be really funny, which is more than can be said for most of your jocular advocates. The play only ran for half a week, though "the court was densely crowded in every 'available corner,'" and "among those present were many eminent members of the theatrical profession," who when they cannot be acting like to be at the play, and when they cannot be at the play like listening to a theatrical case.

But it is well known that a great many things are amusing in a law court which would not be amusing anywhere else, and that a joke often crops up there in most unexpected quarters. An expression of inability to understand the meaning of "cue" and "understudy" does not come within the description of unexpected. Ever since Lord Coleridge asked Mr. Corney Grain who and what he was, or at all events since the same eminent person professed never to have heard of Miss Connie Gilchrist, ostentatious declarations of ignorance have been recognized as humorous in legal circles. Sometimes, no doubt, they are honest enough, as in the case of the counsel learned in the law, who is currently reported never to have heard of any one except Oliver Cromwell and Mr. Gladstone. But they are perhaps becoming a little tiresome.

And then, referring to the crowning jest that the plaintiff was dismissed, because she was in an interesting condition on, which the *Saturday* says that there seems to be a good deal of the natural Gamp in the legal mind—and to the 'funny' evidence of Mr. Toole who solemnly informed the Jury that he would not deceive them, he had sometimes dropped lines out of a play and had "sometimes introduced lines which were not in the play"—the writer concludes:—

If only Mr. Kemp (who, however, on the whole played up fairly to Mr. Lockwood) had been witty and original enough to say "That, I believe, Mr. Toole, is what you call gag in the profession?" no doubt he would have brought the Court down. Mrs. Conover, the defendant, added to the stock of merriment by the brilliant witticism that she was "alone in London," and the frank admission that she was in "one continual fit of temper" for several weeks. It may be doubted whether the flashes of which we have attempted to give the reflexion compensate for the waste of public time and the transformation of a court of justice into a sort of theatrical appendix—what the Americans call a "side show." It is quite right that Miss Roselle should be paid for the whole of her engage-

ment. But the slander was a piece of silly gossip, which did the plaintiff no harm, and of which no serious notice should have been taken. Even the Judge who once protested, with unnecessary emphasis, that a court of law was not a church, would probably admit that it was not a music-hall.

"Beer" sings the praises of "jolly good ale and old" and malt liquor of every brewing, as may be gathered from this:—

All the wine-drinking peoples have always had the better of the water-drinking; all the beer-drinking peoples (who have had the wit to drink what good wine they could get likewise) have had the better of the merely wine-drinking. Those who say that beer is not poetical forget that the magnificent poetry of the Scandinavian races sprang from beer. Let us therefore for all its gross humours cherish beer, and remember that the one people who were too much for the Ten Thousand themselves were the beer-drinking Carduchiens. And let us also remember that barley malt maketh better ale than oatsen malt, or rice malt, or any other grain whatever, while it also hath the secondary and admirable quality of making the only perfect whisky. Honour then to malt, and let every one in such malten product as is most convenient to him (for the quite supernatural excellence of the thing appears in the fact that the very people who can least take beer can take whisky properly diluted) mention the name of Mr. Gladstone with such qualification as he thinks fit. We entertain but small doubt of what the qualification will be in the mouths of the principal and best persons.

And after reading this, "Compulsory Sobriety," which shows how the Retreats for Imbriates have comparatively failed—may be perused. A paper on *Careme*, the famous cook, concludes with:—

The "biggest thing" and the hardest work *Careme* was ever engaged in was the grand military dinner in Paris to 10,000 soldiers after the Restoration. Two rows of tables stretched all the way from the Place de la Concorde to the Barrière de l'Etoile, and the commissariat organization must have been extremely difficult. We read of 6 oxen, 250 sheep, 75 calves, 800 turkeys, 4,000 fowls and partridges, 1,000 hams and tongues, 2,000 carp and pike, and so forth; with 18,000 bottles and 145 casks of Macon. The Retreat of that Ten Thousand must have been worth seeing.

In "The Queen's Jubilee among the Doctors" the *Spectator* has an article on a proposal put forward by the *Medical Press* "which shows a delicacy of feeling among our medical men for which it is not easy to find any adequate expression. They have been struck with the idea that the Empire needs binding together by finer and more spiritual bonds than any which the Imperial Institute can provide, and they have thought of a mode of effecting this purpose which, while it need not cost them anything as individuals, will yet draw from all quarters of the Queen's Empire young men who thirst to unravel the mysteries of life and of disease by penetrating into the hearts and brains of our dependant fellow-creatures. A Jubilee is a happy event." Therefore, say some of the doctors and surgeons, let us have an institution in which vivisection shall be practised on a large scale. This horrifies the gentle *Spectator*. "The Catholic Church in American and Ireland" explains the different policies adopted by the heads of the Catholic Church in the two countries. In the United States Father, McGlynn has been suspended for his sympathy with Socialists, in Ireland the "Plan of Campaign" has been sanctioned and even encouraged. The article should be read. Mr. Cotter Morison's "The Service of Man"—a treatise in the interest of infidelity which has recently been published—forms the subject of a long *Spectator* paper, and is somewhat favourably reviewed in this number of the *Athenaeum*. It is in this book that there is a premonition of a terrible state of things, in the near future, in Europe. Mr. Morison fears the worst from the steady worsening of social conditions

brought about by international competition and reckless production of offspring. After describing the changes made by machinery substituted for labour, the increase of wealth and population which has resulted, along with the cheapening of commodities, Mr. Morison, a leading light among the Positivists, sees in these and their effects the approach of a calamity without precedent since the Black Death, which desolated the world in the fourteenth century. And this is his warning:—"one would think that it was obvious to casual observation that we are commencing to descend an incline, down which we shall move at accelerated speed, to be brought up at last in general calamity. The difficulty of taking new views of old things and conditions can alone blind men from seeing the fate before them. . . . The production of wealth, as it has obtained in the past, can continue no longer. The State will be impoverished along with individuals; and with increasing charges will have less revenues to meet them. Then we shall know what a general or universal commercial catastrophe really means when the famishing unemployed will not be counted by thousands but by millions; when a page of the *Times* will suffice for business advertisements of London; and when the richest will be glad to live on the little capital they have left, never thinking of interest. . . . It may be doubted if there was ever more misery in the midst of more wealth. Morality is avenged at last; and the great lesson being brought home, that wealth and its production are not the first, nor even the second, chief interests of a State, that the commonwealth demands, something else, and more from its citizens than a unique pre-occupation to make their own fortunes. . . . Nature will take the matter in hand, and with her summary process of pestilence and famine make such a sweep as will somewhat amaze the world."

In the *St. James's*, and also in the *Saturday*, there is an intention apparent to write Lord Randolph Churchill out of the Tory party. They say he is a Radical and should behave as such, openly, and not disguised as a Tory. This is not only shortsighted but betrays a want of knowledge of English political history. Both parties in the State have been well served by leaders who were suspect of not being what they passed for. Lord Palmerston was as good a Conservative as ever sat in the House of Commons when he was a Liberal Premier, and Mr. Disraeli was for many long years as unsatisfactory a Conservative leader in the eyes of the bulk of his party as Lord Randolph Churchill ever could be. In politics, men must be taken for what they say they are, as long as they are useful. This is a good number of the *St. James's*, as it has many readable papers on all kinds of subjects.

The *Pall Mall*, towards the end of its prologue to the Session says of the Tory deserter and the Liberal leader:—

The line of the Liberals proper is not very interesting. Mr. Gladstone will probably see cause to rejoice that he was led to refrain from denouncing the Plan of Campaign, and it will be curious to see him and Lord Randolph fraternizing as the two martyrs of economy left in the House. The fact that Lord Randolph revolted against the completion of the programme laid down by Mr. Gladstone's own Ministry will only add piquancy to the spectacle.

The *Athenæum* says that "Lays and Legends," despite many imperfections, is the work of a genuine poet and some of the extracts show this. "A Son of Hagar" appears to be a good novel.

THE ENGLISH-MAIL PAPERS.

LORD Randolph Churchill's explanation at the opening of Parliament is similarly estimated by the *Saturday* and the *Spectator*. The former sees in it much material for

bitter parliamentary strife hereafter, and the *Spectator*, while admitting that it was made in a tone of business-like moderation that did credit to his tact, says that it was in itself insufficient to sustain his reputation for sagacity. He proved his case, which was, that since he joined the government he had committed himself to the policy of reducing the naval and military expenditure, but what the public will say is that he acted foolishly in making a demand for substantial reduction, and its immediate fulfilment, an absolute condition of his remaining in a government that had only been in office for six months. It goes on to foresee that a motion favouring a reduction of expenditure will be made before long, Mr. Gladstone's speech on the opening night making it quite evident that he is ready to take advantage of the Churchill defection, as of anything else that might turn up to help his political fortunes. The debate on the Address to the Speech from the Throne, makes this prevision of the *Spectator* something of a certainty. An economical party is once again going to take the floor, and not before one is needed. It is impossible that European nations can go on year after year spending immense sums on armaments without inflicting serious' and it may be permanent injury on themselves. They are now almost without exception manufacturing or commercial countries, or trying to become mercantile and manufacturing, and these, to be successful, require that the burdens on capital and labour shall be as light as possible, and this cannot be with high taxation. Putting aside the lack of judgment which Lord Randolph Churchill showed in making his demand when he did,—the outlook in Europe being in Lord Salisbury's words very black,—there is no doubt that as a Tory Democrat he was right. A party which is to rely for its strength on democracy cannot increase, it may not even be able to maintain, what are called "burdens on the people"; and in the matter of retrenchment, a large section of the middle classes are certain to side with workmen. But Lord Randolph's explanation has been succeeded by a speech from him on the Address, which the *St. James's* calls a useful one, praises for its cleverness and blames for its want of judgment. It was the speech in which he mocked the Unionists, as the crutch of the Tory party, and explained his views on the defences of the Empire. He would repose the defences on the patriotism and loyalty of a free and contented people, animated not so much by the strength of their fortifications as by their undying historic memories; he would prefer to repose the defences of the British empire upon a careful, thrifty and frugal husbanding in time of peace of those national resources, in order that in time of war they may be exuberantly displayed in all their irresistible might. This is only a translation of Disraeli's 'bloated armament' vein. The *St. James's* concludes that Lord Randolph saw sundry political combinations possible, in which there would be no room for him, that to be anywhere head and chief was not to be expected, unless he made a party for himself, and as he found it to be impossible to do this in the present Cabinet, he went out of it. Lord Randolph seems to have become even more of a political personage since Parliament opened than he was last year. The state of Europe and the prospects of war, though they are dealt with, evidently occupied less attention at home, domestic political themes having largely taken their place. "The Cutting-up of England" in the *Saturday* is a very clever exposure of the claptrap arguments or rather assertions, that are made at Welsh and Scottish meetings. It is very piquant and personal, as will be seen from this extract dealing with one of the Scots performers, and the attitude of some of the supporters of Home Rule for Scotland:—

Dr. W. A. Hunter, M.P., has been delivering an address at Galashiels on Home Rule for Scotland. Dr. Hunter disputes with Mr. Jonybears the position of the greatest and the most self-confident bore let loose by recent elections on a hapless House of Commons. We learn from Mr. Gladstone's Scotch organ that this question "has been forced upon Dr. Hunter in his capacity of Imperial legislator." Memories of the last Session suggest that a very large number of subjects seem to have forced themselves on Dr. Hunter in this capacity, and the long-suffering House would probably be devoutly thankful if he had the strength of mind to resist some of them. It is fair to say that the journal over whose christening feast Mr. Gladstone said grace does not wholly approve of Home Rule. But one of its reasons for disapproving is so curious and so characteristic that it must be quoted. "In England," says the *Scottish Leader*, "the nationalisation of the Church revenues would be a tangible relief, in which Scotland would necessarily share." There is, no doubt much canniness in thus postponing the dissolution of this other Union until the Church has been looted and Scotland has had time to cry "Halves!" in the loot.

There are two smart articles on American matters, and one on the North Pacific in which, speaking of Fort Hamilton, the writer says that it has been obvious for some time past that even in the Far East there is a party that does not take kindly to a permanent occupation. Among English traders there seem to be some who doubt whether any advantage to be obtained by holding it would compensate us for the creation of another cause of quarrel with Peking. If this is not rubbish we should like to know what is. English traders, so far as we know, have been silent on the matters, and the only foreigners in the Far East who have said anything of the kind have been the subsidised editors of the Japan newspapers. On foreign affairs the *Saturday* remarks:—

It does not require much acuteness to see where the real danger lies. It suits Prince Bismarck, no doubt, to emphasise a little anything that may make for his favourite projects. It is pleasant for General Boulanger to become a European personage. But nobody supposes that the German Chancellor would willingly provoke a real war, and the most accurate diagnosis of the French General's character may perhaps lead to the same conclusion in his own case. General Boulanger might probably adopt the regrets of Othello with a qualification. He is, no doubt, sincerely attached to the "plumed troop," the "neighing steed," the "shrill trumpet," and so forth. But he can have all these without the "big wars," and he may possibly have a shrewd suspicion that the big wars would be the very thing to lose him steed and plumes and trumpet and all. A nation which cannot endure a Prime Minister for more than an average of about six months is very unlikely to be tolerant of a general for even six weeks, unless he gains continual successes. And General Boulanger is quite soldier enough to know that neither he nor any one else is at all likely to be able to telegraph *Veni, Vidi, Vici*, in a war between France and Germany. Yet it is this very inconstant and unsettled temper in the French nation which is the great danger of the situation in the West, just as the caprices of the Czar are the great source of danger in the East. It has just been exemplified in the most curious fashion by the renewed outbreak of French ill-humour against England.

The *Spectator* reads the omens as still warlike, but says nothing new. In the articles on general subjects this paper gives a fair account of the Glenbeigh Evictions, founded on the correspondence on the subject in the *Times*. Every one should read that correspondence, as it gives unimpeachable evidence of the falsehoods circulated by the National press, to which some portion of the English press lent an ear. "The Aristocracy of the Future" is on a lecture by the late Canon Kingsley to the men at the Crewe Works in 1871, in which he maintained that it is by the study of natural history that the

Aristocracy of the Future will be trained. This extract from the lecture is given:—

"I used to think," said Canon Kingsley, "that we could get perfect freedom and social reform, and all that I wanted, by altering the arrangements of society and legislation; by Constitutions and Acts of Parliament; by putting society into some sort of freedom-mill, and grinding it all down, and regenerating it so. And that something can be done by improved arrangements, something can be done by Acts of Parliament, I hold still, as every rational man must hold. But as I grew older, I began to see that, if things were to be got right, the freedom-mill would do very little towards getting them right however well and cunningly it was made. I began to see that what sort of flour came out at one end of the mill, depended mainly on what sort of grain had been put in at the other: I began to see that the problem was to get good grain; and then good flour would be turned out, even by a very clumsy, old-fashioned sort of mill. And what do I mean by good grain? Good men; honest men, accurate men, thoughtful men, self-restraining men, fair men, modest men; men who are aware of their own vast ignorance compared with the vast amount that there is to be learned in such a universe as this; men who are accustomed to look at both sides of a question, and instead of making up their minds in haste, like bigots and fanatics, wait, like wise men, for more facts, and more thought about the facts; in one word, men who have acquired just the habit of mind which the study of Natural Science can develop, and must have; for without it there is no use studying Natural Science; and the man who has not got that habit of mind, if he meddles with science, will merely become a quack and a charlatan, only fit to get his bread as a spirit-rapper or an inventor of infallible pills."

On this the *Spectator* enlarges at considerable length, starting from this objection:—

What, however, we wish to call attention to, is that almost all the qualities which Canon Kingsley enumerates in this eloquent passage, great as they are, and invaluable as they are to all students of Nature, are insufficient for an aristocracy of any kind in its truest sense, —i.e., a class wielding governing power because they are best able to wield it,—and that one of the qualities which did, by an oversight we imagine, creep into Canon Kingsley's list,—the quality of "fairness," —is not gained by any study of mere Nature, at least below the level of human nature, though it is almost as essential to a permanent ruling aristocracy, as all the others put together.

The *St. James's* has an account of a chrysanthemum Garden Party at Yokohama, purporting to be written by an officer of the fleet, which gives a sketch of Japanese high life *en fête* in European dress. A New Era in shipbuilding describes the building and speed of the new class of ocean fast steamers. There are several other good papers in this number. The *Pall Mall* has nothing very notable. Its reviewer does not seem to know what to make of Mr. Robert Browning's new volume, in the extracts from which we find these lines, which have one fine image.

Let the oak increase
His corrugated strength on strength, the palm
Lift joint by joint her fan-fruit, bale and balm,—
Let the coiled serpent bask in bloated peace—
The eagle, like some other skyey derelict,
Drift in the blue, suspended glorying—
The lion lord it by the desert spring,—
What know or care they of the power which
pricked
Nothingness to perfection?

The *Athenæum* extols the fairness shown by Mr. Gardiner in the first volume of the "History of the Great Civil War." More interesting, however, is the paper on the auto-biography of a Sergeant, a hero in the Peninsular and Waterloo campaigns, from which we take the following ingenuous extract:—

At Badajos Lawrence saw sharp fighting. On one occasion the French made a vigorous sortie:—

"I killed a French sergeant myself with my bayonet in this action. I was at the time in the trenches when he came on the top and made a dart at me with his bayonet, having, like myself, exhausted his fire; and while in the act of thrusting he overbalanced himself and fell. I very soon pinioned him to the ground with my bayonet, and the poor fellow soon expired. I was sorry afterwards that I had not tried to take him prisoner instead of killing him, but at the time we were all busily engaged in the thickest of the fight, and there was not much time to think about things. And besides that, he was a powerful-looking man, being tall and stout, with a beard and moustache completely covering his face, as fine a soldier as I have seen in the French army, and if I had allowed him to gain his feet, I might have suffered for it; so perhaps in such times my plan was the best—kill or be killed."

From the Literary Gossip we learn that Mr. Louis Stevenson is about to publish three volumes, partly reprints; Miss Mary Robinson has undertaken to edit a new annotated translation of the 'Heptameron,' rather a strange undertaking for a woman. Baron Tauchnitz celebrated, on 1st Feb., the fiftieth year of the foundation of his firm, probably the only German publishing house whose name is familiar to the British tourist. Dr. D. Asher wrote a sonnet in celebration of the event.

Outports.

CHINAN-FU.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The winter has brought one of the heaviest snow-storms known for eight or ten years, bringing increased suffering to the poor dwellers in straw-mat tents along by or on the banks of the Yellow River. In the last few days, only some five miles from the city, another opening has occurred in the bank north of the River. If the waters can overflow now, what may we expect later on, when the torrents of unmanageable mountain streams and summer rains come rushing down? The fatal mistake in all the reforms is the neglect to open up sufficiently the mouth of the River. English, French, and German merchants have made overtures to the Governor for the sale of dredgers, if nothing more; but, we have understood the Governor has despatched a special officer to Shanghai to order at the Arsenal there a dredger of smaller size and according to the Governor's special fancy. Rumours now and then fly through our heathen air in regard to foreign management of the River, but such rumours are mostly the production of fertile Chinese brains that fear something terrible by the superiority of foreign methods and the futility of Chinese notions. The Governor, as yet, has not received Imperial orders permitting or refusing the plan to direct a portion of the water into the old bed at the south. The Viceroy of the Two Kiang, the Governor of Honan and the Director of the Grand Canal, are strongly opposed to this plan, for well they know the burdens which would then fall on them. If that idea should be sanctioned, we may find in the future two Yellow Rivers scourging China. When the science of the matter is learned, not only Shantung and China may rejoice, but western influence will be recognised, and this is just what many an active grasping mandarin detests.

20th Feb.

NEUCHWANG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

Taking the thermometer as a guide, there seems a chance of the river breaking up sooner than usual. Last winter at this time Fahrenheit showed a degree or two below zero=33/34° of frost—whereas for the last few days we have only had from 20/22

degrees, and one day there was quite a pleasant thaw. Carts are still crossing on the ice, and natives prognosticate that steamers cannot come in for at least five or six weeks. The sporting excursionists have returned with more or less spoil in the way of deer, and meanwhile the community has been having quite a good time—balls, weekly practices, Cinderellas, concerts and, wonderful to add, a Fancy Ball under the auspices of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Edgar. This was a great success, and although the advantages for obtaining what is required are small indeed, and the guests were a very limited number compared to the fortunate ports in the south, it may be said without hesitation, that the enjoyment was genuine and complete. The costumes were surprisingly good and one might well wonder how they were got at. There was the Spanish Bull-fighter, ably represented by the host, and the hostess—*place aux Dames*, you will say, was a most charming Anachronism. A Magpie was adorned by one of our sweet representatives, and Dresden China, Little Bopeep, Rhoda, Nurses, Peasant-girls and, I hardly like to say it, Fishwives, intermingled with Italian Guitar Troubadours, a grand Turk, Albanian, Armenian or something like that, but looking very handsome, Norwegian Vikings, Shanghai Volunteers, Queen's Counsel, A.B.'s, I mean of both sorts, for there was the undergraduate and the man-of-war's man, Clown, Pantaloon, Night and Morning. In fact everything seemed to be there, even the Sandwich-man, advertising "the Fancy Ball, for one night only, on St. Valentine's day," a Chinese Dragon at the risk of suffocating the performer, a Pack of Cards looked nice and playful. This reminds me that Pantaloon or Clown, I suppose he was meant for, was the hero of the evening, and never lost sight of his character.

The Chinese holidays are over at last, but there are not any signs of business yet, although all kinds of grain and medicine are daily being stored in the native city.

19th February.

On 22nd inst. we had "Woodcock's Little Game" in the English Court or Hall of Entertainment. The acting was good, very good throughout, and we have never seen amateurs equal to the ladies and gentlemen who carried the piece through more perfectly. It would be invidious to single out anyone where all were first-rate, and we'll only add that whereas Mrs. Carver could not have been surpassed, the rippling laughter of Mrs. Larkins had such an effect upon the audience, that it reminded one forcibly of Mrs. Bancroft's wonderful powers of risibility. The lesser parts taken by ladies, such as Mrs. Woodcock and Susan, left nothing to be desired. The Bride looked pretty and self-possessed, and the Maid (Susan's) scream and run when pursued by the gallant Woodcock, were simply killing. It can be imagined that supported by such ladies, the gentlemen could not help acquitting themselves as they should. The first part of the evening was devoted to singing and instrumental music, and the performances of the community were most successful. Altogether the evening's entertainment was a most enjoyable one.

A dance was to have taken place this week, but was put off in consequence of the death of the Rev. A. Westwater, which occurred at Moukden on the 8th inst. Mr. Westwater was arranging about a locality in the interior where he would be stationed, and got a chill. Fever set in, and before his wife and children could reach him, he passed away. Although he has been here only a short time he has left a strong impression on the community on account of the sincerity of his character, and the beautiful sermons he occasionally gave, and all mourn most deeply the bereavement of the widow and children.

The winter looks like breaking up, and an attempt is made to cover the dust-ridden ground with snow; may the effort be crowned with success. Generally Jack Frost winds up with snow, but we have still strong ice on the river, over which carts are crossing.

Yesterday the community took over the rooms (basement) in Mr. J. Edgar's house, where we have had some pleasant evenings during the winter, so that we are secured for the next twelve months.

26th February.

PEKING.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The great event among the foreign community here has been the Grand Fancy Dress Ball given by His Excellency the German Ambassador. It was a great success. It would be difficult if not almost impossible to describe in suitable language this grand spectacle, including the most gorgeous dresses of nearly all countries and all ages. Considering the huge difficulties of getting up such costumes at Peking, it certainly reflects great credit upon the taste and spirit of our residents. Where all were so good it would be invidious perhaps to select a few for description. Were it not trespassing too much on your space, I feel very much tempted to give you a complete list of the characters represented. Two huge Chinese vases paraded up and down the gorgeous saloon. A beer bottle was also conspicuous on the occasion. The advent of a huge elephant, which performed before the company, was a great success. It should be noticed that H. E. the Marquis Tseng and suite appeared for a short time in the gay scene. After midnight an elaborate supper, in Mr. von Brandt's usual style, was served, after which the cotillon was danced with all sorts of ingenious contrivances. The company broke up about 2.30 a.m. The event will remain a pleasant souvenir of the genial and kind-hearted host. During the evening a thoroughly incognito "sandwich" man appeared, who distributed the following printed telegram:—*The Times* Special, London, 14th Feb. 1887. We have just received a telegram from our special correspondent in Peking relating the great success of the fancy dress ball given this evening at the German Legation by H.E. Mr. von Brandt. We congratulate the Doyen of the Diplomatic Body in China who is universally considered one of the most charming men it is possible to meet.

The second Saturday evening grand dinner party and dancing took place at the Russian Legation. On Sunday morning, the 18th, all Peking was astrid and en route for the Tung T'ang (East R. C. Cathedral) to see the wedding of Mons. F. Souhart, First Secretary of the French Legation, and Madlle Strikides, niece of Madame Verhaeghe de Naeyer, wife of the Belgian Minister. It was a very grand and elaborate affair; all the Ministers were present in full uniform. The Russian Archimandrite officiated, assisted by the other ecclesiastics. I noted the custom of holding crowns over the heads of the bride and bridegroom, of marching three times round the desk, with their hands locked together, and led by the Archimandrite, with a pause between each turn, also the placing of the cup of wine three times to the lips by both parties, and twice of the bridegroom, of the kissing the cross by both and of the bride by the bridegroom. After the ceremony, Madame Verhaeghe de Naeyer held a reception at the Belgian Legation at midday, whither all repaired to offer their hearty congratulations to the newly married pair and also to the uncle and aunt of the bride. A sumptuous *déjeuner à la fourchette* was provided, when the health of the bride and bridegroom was proposed by H.E. M. Commauy, Russian

Ambassador. The bride held in her hand and had her hair and train decorated with orange blossoms, which came all the way overland by special courier from Shanghai. It is seldom orange blossoms have been carried so far to grace a marriage ceremony.

We are about to lose a large contingent of our Customs gentlemen, viz. Mr. Chalmers, who goes to Tamsui to relieve Mr. Farago, who comes to Peking to take the place as Chief Chinese Secretary of Mr. de Bernières who is going home on leave. Mr. Maclean goes to Canton, Mr. Dent to Foochow, Mr. Ruhstrat to Chingkiang, Mr. Feer to Chefoo, Mr. Bowra to Tientsin, and Mr. Grancella to Newchwang.

We had a Christy Minstrel performance at the British Legation Theatre the other evening. The programme was most elaborate, containing apt quotations from Shakespeare and other poets, descriptives more or less of the characters. It was divided into three parts. The negro, and other songs and the local conundrums were fully appreciated by the large and gay audience, embracing the entire foreign community and including not a few missionaries. The first act in coming on the stage of the minstrel party was to request that the reporter for the *Chinese Times* be excluded, but had this been carried out the company would have been seriously disappointed, as it is more than half suspected that the lively writers for that journal were all on the stage. Then followed what was termed a startling and unique exhibition of mind reading, and this again was followed by a marvellous entertainment by the modern Hercules, Mind! Muscle!! Magic!!! This burlesque was excellent and great praise is due to Professor Pauller and Baron von Ketteller for the distinguished parts they played. At the conclusion of the performance, the party retired to Lady Walsam's where a magnificent supper was prepared and where dancing was enjoyed for several hours more.

5th March.

TIENTSIN.

Newspapers dates are to the 5th inst. A Burlesque, and a Fancy Ball are described in glowing colours. And at Peking also there had been a Fancy Dress Ball at the German Legation. The question of coinage of cash was attracting much attention in the north, as in Foochow, and the *Shipao* says:—His Excellency Prince Chih, the Members of the Grand Council, and the Boards of Revenue and Works, having received a Decree from Her Majesty the Empress ordering the arsenals and factories in the various provinces to purchase the necessary machinery for the immediate coinage of cash, these establishments are now earnestly setting themselves to work, and the superintendent wei-yuens are all on the alert as their responsibilities. The cash minted by the arsenal at Foochow, weighing only eight candarins and a half, are found to be too light, the standard weight of the cash used in the capital and throughout the provinces being one mace. The cash coined by the various mints at the capital are to be of a uniform system, to consist of copper absolutely freed from sand and other alloys. The Board of Revenue are now energetically setting their furnaces to work, it being no longer possible for them to evade or postpone operations; they have, besides, furnished funds for the purchase of five hundred thousand piculs of Yunnan copper and other money necessary for carrying on the different operations in strict conformity with the instructions contained in the Decree.

The views expressed by the Marquis Tseng since he was appointed what may be called "Master of the Mint" are understood to be of a conservative character. He advocates a return to the ancient native

method of casting the copper coinage, or, if foreign machinery must be used that it shall be kept at a distance from the capital. There is no doubt that in adopting this attitude the Marquis follows the course which is safest for himself.

Owing to the distress among the people in the vicinity of Tsun-hua Chou—occasioned by the floods of last summer—an appeal for aid was circulated among the foreign residents of Peking on Monday last. The response was immediate and liberal, resulting in a subscription amounting to Tls. 195.0.2. Much credit is due to the gentlemanly agent of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, who is acting as treasurer of the fund.—*Chinese Times*.

NAGASAKI.

The *Rising Sun* says:—A most lamentable catastrophe occurred on the island of Ikeshima, about twenty-five miles distant from here, on the evening of the 4th inst., resulting in the death of four Japanese and the wounding in various degrees of seven others. The circumstances of the case, so far as we have been able to gather, are, that the U.S. *Omaha*, Capt. Selfridge, whilst on the voyage down from Kobe, stopped off Ikeshima, for gun-practice, and as fishing-boats were scattered about in every direction out to sea, it was decided to put up a floating target about fifty yards from the beach, below a bluff about 400 feet high, at which some thirty shots were fired, at a distance of about 1,000 yards, between the hours of 10 and 11 a.m. At the conclusion of the firing, the officer of the ship in charge of the target reported that the whole of the shells fired had exploded, and the ship proceeded on her voyage, arriving here about 1 p.m. Unfortunately, however, shortly after the *Omaha* left, an unexploded shell was found, and whilst a group of resident natives were examining it, it suddenly, through some unexplained cause, exploded, with the fatal result as stated above. The affair was at once reported to the Kencho, and the services of the Mitsui Bishi Co.'s s.s. *Meishin* having been placed at the disposal of the authorities, the following day, Dr Yoshido, superintendent of the Nagasaki Hospital, and a police officer, accompanied by a staff of men, proceeded to Ikeshima to investigate and report officially upon the matter.

It was found that the dead consisted of four young men and boys. The wounded were one man, one woman and two boys seriously, and one woman and two girls slightly, and all are expected to recover. All the wounds are on the front parts of the bodies, and were evidently inflicted whilst the unfortunate people were standing together in somewhat close proximity to the shell at the time it exploded,—the killed and severely wounded probably being in the front rank of the spectators, and those slightly wounded close behind them. The *Omaha* is blamed, as the Japanese Government has distinctly prohibited gun or torpedo practice within three miles of the shore. The *Rising Sun* learns that four other unexploded shells were found by the police buried in the beach where the one which exploded was also found and which was carried too near the schoolhouse which was destroyed.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

February 12th and 13th.—(1) A Decree directing the Governor-General Li Hung-chang to order the Financial Commissioner of Chihli to forward Tls. 12,000 without delay to the General of the T'ai-ning Chên Division, who is in immediate want of funds for the repair of roads, bridges, and rest-houses, in anticipation of the Imperial visit to the Western Mausolea at the end of the third moon.

(2) A Memorial from the Governor of Kueichow applying, in response to a numerous signed petition from the officials and gentry of that province, for permission to erect a Memorial temple to Ting Pao-chên, late Governor-General of Szechuen, at P'ing-yüan Chou in the Ta-t'ing Prefecture, which is his native place.—The request is granted by a Rescript appended to the Memorial.

(3) A sub-memorial from Yang Ch'ang-ch'ün, Governor-General at Foochow, giving the general result of his observations as to the condition of the country in the districts through which he passed in his recent tour of military inspection. He found that the expedition undertaken by General Wei Tach'un and the Tao-t'ai Liu Cho-yün for the suppression of clan fighting had had a marked effect in the Hsing-hua Prefecture, where the pugnacious proclivities of the people had been specially developed. Clan feuds at P'u-chiang, T'ung-an, and Nan-an in the Ch'üan-chou Prefecture, and at Shao-an in the Chang-chou Prefecture, had been settled by the local authorities; and Liu Cho-yün has been sent to deal with the quarrels that are still being kept up. A long standing feud between two families named Chien and Li in Wu-p'ing Hsien has also been laid to rest, and no fights have occurred there during the autumn and winter. In the three prefectures of Yen-p'ing, Chien-ning, and Shao-wu there have been men of mark generation after generation, and the general habits of the people are fairly docile and orderly, with the result that more petitions were received by the Memorialist in the course of his journey through the places lower down the river than in those parts, most of all being presented in the Shao-wu Prefecture. The more important complaints were minuted by the Memorialist on the spot, and the more ordinary cases were referred to the prefect of the place to be dealt with. The Memorialist was met everywhere he went by the gentry and people, to whom he respectively addressed words of comfort and of thanks, making known to them the benevolent intentions of the Court towards them. Presents of wine and food were given to the elderly, or complimentary tablets and donations of money were bestowed, with injunctions to keep the younger generation in order and to turn from wrongdoing to the pursuit of good. The harvest has been everywhere fair, and prices have fallen to their proper level, while the people in the country that was flooded, thanks to the Imperial charity, have remained quietly in their place, and are attending cheerfully to their respective avocations. The country is everywhere quiet, but at Ch'un-an on the borders of Kiangsi, which is much frequented by tramps, disquieting rumours get about, and troops have been sent to police the district. The rainfall has somewhat abated since the winter set in, and the spring crops promise well. The Memorialist was away from Foochow forty-eight days, returning on the 1st January, and covered over two thousand li in the course of his tour. He found that men of integrity and capacity were not wanting amongst his subordinates and colleagues that he saw in the course of his journeyings, and he did not come in contact with many money-grasping or disreputable ones, though there was a considerable proportion of incapable, effete, and perfunctory officers. This being the time of the triennial scrutiny, an opportunity will be afforded of advancing or degrading them as may be severally advisable.

February 14th.—Ni Wên-wei, formerly governor of Kuangtung, having recovered from his illness, paid his respects at Court and was received in audience.

(1) The Governor of Chekiang reports that a successful attack was made on the jail of the Tung-yang District in that province, on the afternoon of the 1st of December, by a gang of desperadoes who wounded and overpowered the turnkeys, broke open the doors of the various cells and carried

off the prisoners, numbering ten in all. The military police were immediately called out and started in pursuit of the gang, who opened fire upon the soldiers and succeeded in getting off, after recapturing one of the prisoners who had been seized by the chief turnkey. This officer was wounded in the head and elsewhere, as were also others of the party. Three of the runaway prisoners were subsequently caught, but seven still remain at large, as do also the perpetrators of this daring outrage. The magistrate was absent from his post at the time, being engaged with the prefect in making preparations for an approaching examination, but the want of preparatory caution which resulted in the successful carrying out of this raid betokens more than ordinary carelessness on the part of the responsible authorities, and the Memorialist has accordingly to request that the acting Magistrate of the District and the jail warden may as a preliminary measure have their buttons removed, and be committed to the Board for the determination of a penalty, further punitive action being taken should no arrests be made within the limit of time assigned.

Sanctioned by Decree earlier issued.

(2) The Governor of Jeh-hoh submits returns of the number of summary executions carried out in his jurisdiction during the 12th year of Kuang Hsü. Thirty-seven criminals in all were executed, all of whom were robbers or mounted banditti, and two more who died in prison had their heads cut off after death.

February 15th.—(1) Tsêng Chi-tsê (the Marquis Tsêng) is appointed Junior vice-President of the Board of Revenue with control of the *ch'ien-fu-t'ang*, or Coinage Department. Liao Shou-hêng (Minister of the Tsungli Yamên) is appointed Senior vice-President of the Board of War, and Sun Chia-nai Junior vice-President of the same board.

(2) A second Decree announces the appointment of Ching-shan to the post of Junior vice-President of the Board of Civil Office, and Hsi-ching to that of Junior vice-President of the Board of Revenue, with control of the Coinage Department.

(3) A Decree from the Empress ordering the Financial Commissioner of Chihli to supply the Imperial Equipage Department before the 14th March with Tls. 20,000 as an instalment of the heavy arrears of rents on lands in Chihli due to that department. This order is issued at the instance of the Imperial Equipage Department, who represent that they are urgently in need of funds in order to make due preparations for the approaching Imperial visit to the Western Mausoles.

(4) A Decree from the Empress commuting the penalty, to which the heads of the Board of Revenue have rendered themselves liable, to deprivation of rank with retention of their posts. The officers on whom this punishment is inflicted are Yen Ching-ming, Fu-k'un, Wêng T'ung-ho, Sung-shên, Sun Yi-ching, Ching-shan, and Sun Chia-nai.

(5) A Memorial from Chang Chih-tung, Governor-General at Canton, praying that as an act of kindness to merchants and others, His Majesty will remove the existing prohibitions relating to iron. The Memorialist begs to report that he has received a representation from the Financial and Salt Commissioners of Kuangtung, in which they state that the export by sea of iron and articles made of iron has been forbidden throughout the country with the object of preventing the furnishing of supplies to pirates. But, they continue, now that the maritime restrictions have been removed, the general condition of affairs is very different from what it was formerly. Every year foreign steel and iron are imported from abroad to the amount of some tens of millions of catties; guns, fire-arms, and other articles are bought by the million, and several millions of taels are spent in making payment for the

same. The altogether one-sided character of this trade is eminently unfair. Of late years great attention has been paid to mining affairs throughout the country, and the two chief staples are coal and iron. Canton iron is of unusual fineness and excellence, but the market for it is limited. Should anyone wish to convey it to the coast ports for sale, he is hampered first by the cost of land transport, and then by the illegality of shipment by sea. The result is that foreign iron penetrates everywhere and all the profit falls to its share. Now that the Canton Board of Mines is stimulating the energies of the people in the direction of mining enterprise, the two commissioners conceive it their duty to pray that the Memorialist will represent to His Majesty the advisability of removing the prohibition against the export by sea of iron and articles made of iron, the said goods paying, as is required by law, duty and *lekin* at the port of shipment. The Memorialist would observe that in Kuangtung and Kuangai iron has long been produced in large quantities, but the consumption of it is restricted by its confinement to a narrow area. Not only does foreign iron penetrate everywhere, causing a serious drain on the wealth of the country, but there is an illicit trade, which cannot be entirely prevented, in the surplus stocks of the local iron. Thus there is merely one more obstacle thrown in the way of the development of mining, and one more source of profit lost to the merchants and manufacturers. The Memorialist would humbly recall the fact that in the last month of the ninth year of His Majesty's reign, when he held the post of Governor of Shansi, in conjunction with Li Hung-chang, Minister Superintendent of Trade for the Northern Ports, he requested His Majesty to sanction the removal of the prohibition on the export of Shansi iron from Tientsin by sea, which request was approved by Decree, and accordingly Shansi iron has now for several years been exported from Tientsin by sea to the three Manchurian Provinces. The case of Kuangtung and Kuangai is similar to that of Shansi. Moreover, at the present moment steps are being taken to develop the mineral resources of Kuangtung, and it is in the interest of private trade that the Commissioners request that the precedent may be followed of removing the prohibition against exportation. Accordingly the Memorialist would humbly pray that, in order to encourage mining enterprise and afford profit to persons in trade, His Majesty may be pleased to permit iron and articles of iron to be exported by sea for sale from Kuangtung and Kuangai. The Memorialist is addressing the Boards of Revenue and Works on this subject. Li Ping-hêng, Governor of Kuangai, joins in the Memorial.—Rescript: Let it be as requested. The board concerned will take note.

January 16th.—(Court Circular.) The Grand Secretary Yen and his colleagues return thanks for the favour of being cashiered but retained at their posts. The Marquis Tsêng was received in audience.

(1) A Decree ordering tablets to be prepared by the Imperial College of Inscriptions for three temples in Tientsin, the deities of which are reported by the Governor-General to have manifested their divine interposition in a marked manner in response to prayers for deliverance from flood, drought, and danger from the bursting of river embankments.

(2) A Memorial from the Governor-General at Canton requesting permission to resume the procedure earlier sanctioned by which persons convicted of kidnapping men or women for sale to go abroad can be summarily put to death.—The above arrangement was sanctioned by Imperial Decree dated the 1st of December, 1866, and was carried out with satisfactory deterrent results until the year 1874, when the then Governor of the province suggested that in view of the

decrease of kidnapping cases, criminals of this class should be treated as other offenders guilty of capital crimes, that is, that the death sentence should be reported to the Throne before being carried out. Ying-han, a subsequent governor-general, also suggested this arrangement, which was endorsed by his successor Liu K'un-i in August, 1876, and duly approved by the Board of Punishments, with the proviso that if the crime increased, further representations should be made to the Throne and more stringent powers solicited.

It has been represented to the Memorialist by the Provincial Judge, that while the law remains the same the application of it becomes more complicated, and the local authorities contrive to bring cases of kidnapping that come before them into the simpler category, by divesting them, when they can, of the character of kidnapping for sale abroad; and will never convict of the latter offence without the personal evidence of the person kidnapped that he was taken away against his will, forgetting that when the victim is once abroad there is no knowing when he can be recovered. As, therefore, the extreme penalty is practically never imposed, the crime of kidnapping is getting more rife every day. The Canton province specially lends itself to the operations of kidnappers, intersected as the coast is with bays and creeks, while Hongkong and Macao afford places to escape to where there are crowds of steamers going to every part. The Memorialist, quoting from the representations of the Provincial Judge, draws a melancholy picture of the desolation and misery caused by the breaking up of the homes of those who are inveigled away, and points out that the effects of the crime are worse even than those caused by robbery and murder. His remarks are fully endorsed by the Memorialist, who requests sanction for the following arrangements: Any persons against whom there is positive proof of having kidnapped persons for sale and exportation abroad, or who cannot prove that persons so induced to go abroad under false pretences went of their own free will, or who give a false place of destination, shall, if such persons are not recovered within three months, be forthwith put to death. —Request granted by Rescript.

February 17th.—(1) Yü-lu is appointed Governor-General of the Hu Kuang Provinces.

(2) A Decree calling upon the Governor-General Li Hung-chang to remit to the treasury of the custodians of the Imperial Mausolea, before the end of the 1st moon the sum of Tls. 10,000, which is required to make preparations for the Imperial visit.

(3) The same high officer is called upon to send Tls. 30,000 before the 4th of March to the Board of War, being Tls. 30,000 of the debt of Tls. 40,000 due to that department on land rents. This sum is urgently required to make preparations for the Imperial visit to the Mausolea.

(4) The Governor-General of Yünnan and Kueichow announces the abolition of a bureau, known as the Central Office for the carrying out of Mining Enterprise, which was established in Yünnan under Imperial sanction in the summer of 1884. This office had for its object the encouragement of mining industry, but it has not proved to be a success, and the directors have accordingly requested that the institution may be abolished as a separate department, and amalgamated with the establishment known as the 礦務招商局, or Mining Company. —Minuted with the Vermilion Pencil: Let the board concerned take cognisance.

(5) The same officer presents a Sub-Memorial to the following effect. With reference to the raid made by the Mantzu rebels across the river (the Chin-sha Chiang), the movements of these people are very erratic, but guard stations have long been in existence in the lower waters of the

river, the troops stationed at which are capable of keeping the Mantzu in hand. The upper and middle waters, however, embracing more than three hundred miles of country, form the trading route between Szechuen and Yünnan, and a tax station exists at a place called Mêng-ku for the levy of *lekin*. Although the recent rising of Mantzu under Chang Hsio-i has been suppressed, the remnants of the band have fled across the river, and it is possible that they may attempt another rising. A panic amongst the trading classes would lead to so large a decrease in the *lekin* receipts, that the Memorialist has decided temporarily to detach three battalions of irregular troops, which he has directed the Prefect of Tung-ch'uan to station along the upper and middle waters for the protection of traffic. A monthly ration allowance of Tls. 378 will be allowed to each battalion, and they will be withdrawn at the end of a few months, when things are safer and trade is flourishing.—Imperial minute in Vermilion: The board concerned will take cognisance.

(6.)—The same officer reports that the acting Prefect of Tung-ch'uan, who is also director of the Mining Company, has reported that he is unable, from conditions of weather and other causes, to forward the full complement of 500,000 catties of Yünnan copper which he had been called upon to send this year to Peking, and could only undertake to make up his total for the year to 300,000 catties. The Memorialist has refused to accept this arrangement, but has allowed him one month more in which to get the full amount forwarded.—Imperial minute in Vermilion: Let the board concerned take cognisance.

February 18th.—(1) Lien-ên is appointed Deputy-Lieutenant-Governor at San-hsing in the province of Kirin.

(2) A Decree acknowledging the receipt of the report of the Board of Punishments with reference to the alleged appropriation by a clerk in the Board of Revenue called Shih En-t'ao of a large percentage of a grant of money for repairs to the Yellow River. The board report that the clerk in question strenuously denied the allegations made against him, and the depositions of the agent of the Governor of Shantung, taken by the latter, do not establish the charge of fraud or extortion. Although no absolute proof of extortion in this case can be produced against Shih En-t'ao, the said clerk has none the less been the subject of numerous denunciations from the Censorate Class, and the extravagance and luxury of his establishment are patent testimony to his undue assumption of control, and to the indifferent nature of his reputation. This must be sternly corrected as a warning to others, and we accordingly direct, as suggested by the board, that Shih En-t'ao be sentenced to receive a hundred blows, and be sent into banishment for three years. Sun Yi-ching, vice-president of the Board of Revenue, has been guilty of grave impropriety in allowing Shih En-t'ao to pay over money when he had been dismissed and handed over to the police authorities with a view to the infliction of severe punishment. Sun Yi-ching will be committed to the board for the determination of a penalty. (See Gazette of January 7th.)

(3.) A Memorial from the Governor-General of Yünnan and Kueichow reporting the suppression of a formal rising of aborigines, headed by a Chinese, in the northern part of Yünnan. The Tung-ch'uan prefecture, in which the rising occurred, is occupied by many of the actors in the last great rebellion, and the germs of sedition exist there to a considerable extent. The western portion of this prefecture adjoins the country of the aborigines known as *Nei-man-tzu*, or black *Man-tzu*, in Szechuen, from which province it is separated only by the Chin-sha Chiang, which the aborigines are conti-

nually crossing, to the great misfortune of the country on the other side. In the month of October last the Memorialist heard that certain local members of the criminal class had entered into league with the *Man-tzu* to cross the river and inaugurate a rising, so he despatched troops to the locality and warned the prefect to take strict precautions. In due course the prefect and colonel of the garrison reported that their spies had informed them on the 28th of October that Chang Hsio-i, a bad character of the locality, had persuaded more than a thousand *Man-tzu* to join him, that they had crossed the river, and, having pressed several thousand of the criminal classes on the frontier to join them, had taken some six stockades, killing a military official and murdering several people. Troops were promptly brought up and then supported by the train bands. The whole force, numbering over a thousand men, was led against the rebels by the prefect in person, precautions being at the same time taken to protect the *lekin* station at a place called Mêng-ku, and the magistrate being placed in charge of the prefectural city. On the 31st of October the Prefect arrived at the Mêng-ku *lekin* station just in time to prevent an attack upon it by the rebels, whom, taking unawares, he attacked with vigour and put to the rout, retaking the stockades they had captured and making six of the ringleaders prisoners, besides capturing three guns and a number of flags and arms. The rebels then fled to a place called Kuo Ch'ian An, where they established themselves. The Prefect then drew up a proclamation offering pardon to those who would amend their ways and return to their allegiance, and fastened it to an arrow which was shot into the rebels' stronghold. He took measures also to secure the co-operation of traitors in the camp, and then attacked it from three sides on the 10th and 11th of November. The rebels made a fierce resistance, but when their supply of water had been cut off they were forced to make sorties, and several hand to hand encounters took place resulting in the slaughter of more than a hundred of the rebels and their final subjugation. Chang Hsio-i, the head of the rising, is said to have been killed, but the fact requires verification. The Memorial concludes with a request for the bestowal of distinctions upon the Prefect of Tung-ch'uan Fu, and an application for permission to submit the names to His Majesty of other officers who distinguished themselves upon the occasion. (See Gazette of February 6th and 17th.)

January 19th.—The Court Circular announces that Prince Ch'uu was this day summoned to an audience of the Empress.

(1) The following appointments are announced:—Yang-i, sub-Director Grand Court of Revision; Wên-chih, Chief Supervisor of Instruction; Fêng-shan, Director Court of Sacrificial Worship.

(2) A Decree directing the Superintendents of the Peking Granaries to issue 12,000 piculs of rice and millet respectively to the Governor of the Metropolitan Prefecture, to whom also the sum of Tls. 2,000 is to be given for defraying the expense connected with the sale of this grain at reduced rates to the suffering poor in the Chinese city of Peking. The above grant is made at the special request of the Court of Censors who represent that there is a large influx into the Capital of destitute people from the districts which were inundated last summer.

(3) The Governor of Ch'iang reports the result of an enquiry by the Taotai at Ningpo into a series of charges brought against a general called Liu Yü-t'ien, who commanded several regiments in Ningpo for many years. The only charge that has been brought home to the general is that he let off one of his men with a beating whom he discovered to be a member of a secret society, and burnt his proofs of

membership, instead of sending the offender, together with these proofs, to the proper authorities for trial. A further accusation against the general of having drawn pay which was not issued has been found to be incorrect, though the suspicion was justified by a clerical error in his accounts. The Memorialist thinks that the general has been sufficiently punished by the penalty of dismissal that he has already undergone.—Imperial minute is appended directing that General Liu be never again employed in an official capacity.

February 20th.—(1) A Decree acknowledging the receipt of a Memorial from the Governor-General at Canton reporting favourably upon a number of department and district magistrates to His Majesty, and praying that a Decree may be issued commending them for their good conduct. The Decree proceeds to name each of the officials of whom the Governor-General speaks well, and exhorts that high officer to see that they continue to be instant in well doing, and do not lapse from a diligent beginning into an idle ending.

(2) A second Decree sentences a number of officers to degradation who have been reported unfavourably upon by the Governor-General.

(3) The only Memorial of interest in this day's issue is an application from the Governor-General of Yunnan and Kweichow for permission to erect memorial temples to the late General Yang Yü-k'o at Ta-li Fu and Chên-nan Kuan. Yang Yü-k'o, who was of humble origin, was born in Hunan, but afterwards removed his place of domicile to Li-chiang Fu in Yunnan. His first military experience was gained in 1856, when he joined the train band as a volunteer in the attack against Ta-li Fu, which city had been taken by the Mahomedan rebels. He then served under two commanders, but on this occasion he did not appear to have specially distinguished himself. In 1864, when the memorialist was fighting against the rebels at Ch'ü-ching Fu, he noticed particularly a "brave," who was very active and a hard fighter, killing many rebels and making many prisoners. He asked who it was, and was told that the man's name was Yang Yü-k'o. He then gave him uniform and money and made him sergeant of his company, and subsequently placed him in command, thereby earning the gratitude of the man and stimulating him to such activity that there was not a single action in which he did not participate. He had a thorough knowledge of the country, and had many a midnight talk with the Memorialist on military matters, a subject upon which he never tired. Unfortunately for himself he could not read, but at the Memorialist's advice and with his aid took to study, and in three years' time knew something about composition, after which the Memorialist imparted to him the principles of patriotism as expounded in the *Ch'un Ch'iu*, the "Mirror of History," and other works. He was in the van of every fight, and in 1869 he assisted the Memorialist in breaking the cordon round Yunnan Fu. The services of Yang Yü-k'o in the three years' siege of Ta-li Fu are then dwelt upon, followed by the history of its final capture by the Memorialist, who, in conclusion, refers to his death in the recent Tongking campaign, while fighting outside the Chên-nan Gate. (For Decree sanctioning the erection of memorial temples at the places named see *Gazette* of February 10th.)

February 21st.—(1) Yen-mao is appointed civil Vice-Governor of Fêng-t'ien Fu and ex-officio Literary Governor of the Fêng-t'ien Province.

(2) The Governor of Chêkiang submits a return of the receipts of the Chê Hai, or Ningpo, Customs for the hundred and thirtieth period. By instructions from the Board of Revenue, returns of the receipts and expenditure of the native and foreign Customs at Ningpo have to be submitted

at stated periods to the Throne, and, by later instructions from the same board, four-tenths of the native Customs receipts have to be amalgamated with four-tenths of the foreign Customs receipts and remitted to the Ministers Superintendent of Trade for the Northern and Southern Ports in aid of maritime defence expenditure. In accordance with the above instructions the Memorialist has now the honour to submit returns of the receipts and expenditure of the native and foreign Customs at Ningpo during the hundred and thirtieth period, commencing with the 1st of April 1886 and ending with the 29th of June of the same year.

(3) A joint Memorial from the Warden and Assistant Warden of the Marches at Uliasut'ai.—The Memorialists have respectfully to represent that on the 17th of January last they received a despatch from the Board of Ceremonies informing them that, on the personal assumption of government by the Emperor upon the 15th day of the 1st moon, all metropolitan and provincial authorities of standing would be required to offer written congratulations to Her Majesty the Empress, and His Majesty the Emperor. The letter was accompanied by four forms in Manchu and Chinese, which were to be copied and sent in with all despatch. The Memorialists would observe that the town of Uliasut'ai is a military place, and it has not been the custom to submit *ch'ing ho piao wen*, or congratulatory addresses drawn up in a special form, on such occasions as the birthdays of the Empress Dowager or Emperor, the personal assumption of government by the Emperor, or Imperial marriages, a congratulatory memorial being sent instead. The Memorial congratulating His Majesty on the personal assumption of government was duly despatched on the 28th of November last by the hand of a special officer, but having now received from the board forms of the congratulatory address which has to be sent in, it is naturally the duty of the Memorialists to send their congratulations in this shape. Unfortunately, Uliasut'ai is a remote town in Mongolia, where it is impossible to buy the requisite kind of paper, etc., while there is no model at hand which can be followed in the drawing up of the address. Under these circumstances, the Memorialists have decided, after much deliberation, on writing their address, in the form communicated to them by the board, upon yellow memorial paper. They have followed the style adopted in memorials to the Throne, and have placed the address in a memorial box, despatching it by government courier to the care of the Board of Ceremonies, to be by them consigned to the Grand Secretariat for reverent presentation to their Majesties.—Imperial minute: We have taken cognisance.

February 22nd.—(1) A Memorial from the Board of Civil Office reporting the penalties to which the heads of the Board of Revenue have rendered themselves liable for their recent Memorial on the subject of cash coinage.

A copy of the Decree from Her Majesty the Empress, of the 5th of February, having been duly communicated to the board by the Grand Secretariat, they proceeded to obtain from the Board of Revenue the names of the heads of that department whose case had to be considered. They have now to state that the law contains three provisions bearing on this case.

1.—Officers having the privilege of addressing the Throne whose Memorials shall deviate from the standard of decorum shall lose one step of rank and be transferred to another post, the offence being relegated to the category of those committed in a personal capacity.

2.—Officers who are unequal to the duties of their office shall be cashiered, the offence being relegated to the category of those committed in a private capacity.

3.—When penalties to be inflicted upon officers of the public service have to be determined, if the case upon which decision has to be taken shall involve two distinct offences, adjudication shall be based upon the more serious of these two offences.

In the present case the officers implicated have committed both the offences above specified, viz., want of decorum and incapacity for the duties of their office. They are accordingly liable, under the second and graver count, to the penalty of dismissal, and this is the penalty which the memorialists request may be inflicted upon the Grand Secretary, Yen Ching-ming, Controller of the Board of Revenue; Fukun, Assistant Grand Secretary and President of the Board; Wêng T'ung-ho, President; and Sung-shên, Sun Yi-ching, Ching-shan, and Sun Chia-nai, Vice-Presidents. (See *Gazette* of February 15th).

(2) The Governor of Chêkiang reports that the Customs Taotai at Ningpo has remitted to him Tls. 50,000, being the second half of the Tls. 100,000, which the Ningpo Customs was called upon to contribute during the year 1886, for the maintenance of the Manchu and Green Standard troops of Chêkiang, this sum being taken from the foreign Customs receipts.

(3) The same officer reports that the population of Chêkiang in the year 1886, as shown by the census returns sent by the department and district magistrates, was 11,691,255 men, women, and children.

February 23rd.—The only document of interest in this day's issue is a long Memorial from Mu-t'u-shan, Military High Commissioner in Manchuria, reporting the completion of his arrangements for the organisation of a supplementary force of regular troops for the three Manchurian Provinces, and submitting estimates of the cost of its maintenance. The Memorial is considerably involved by the introduction of references to earlier reports and correspondence, and the insertion of details with regard to the appointment of subordinate and other officers, as well as to the pay and allowances to various officers, combatant and civil, attached to the force, but the gist of the paper is as follows:—The force organised by the Memorialist, which consists partially of picked soldiers from the old force and partly of new recruits numbers 4,500 men for each of the three Provinces, to which two regiments of cavalry and eight battalions of infantry are assigned respectively. The total monthly cost of maintaining these troops is upwards of Tls. 89,200, of which amount the Fêng-t'ien Province pays Tls. 7,500 odd, and Kirin, Tls. 9,600, leaving an annual charge to be provided for of Tls. 865,100. The equipment of the Kirin and Hê-lung Chiang troops will be furnished from the Kirin arsenal, and that of the Fêng-t'ien troops from the Peking Field Force Department. The sixty Krupp guns furnished by the Canton Government will be apportioned equally amongst the three Provinces, and will be duly horsed upon arrival. The estimate for uniforms, saddles, tents, and commissariat utensils, is Tls. 90,000, and the total cost of the force per annum, inclusive of miscellaneous items, will be something over a million taels, but nearly one-third less than the original estimate of Tls. 1,500,000. The Admiralty Board would appear, from the Memorial, to be the department to which the general control of this force is to be relegated, and to which reference has to be made for the necessary funds.

February 24th.—The Governor-General at Nanking reports the arrangements he has made for executing an order received from the Board of Works for 200,000 catties of coir, in addition to 50,000 catties to the same material owing on a previous order, the whole of which had to be furnished within a year. The coir will be obtained in Kiangsi and Hupéi at a uniform rate of Tls. 0.01 per catty, exclusive of freight and other charges.

February 25th.—(1) A Decree acknowledging the receipt of a Memorial from the Governor of Feng-t'ien to the effect that a General called Lei Ch'eng-wan, who had borrowed from the Feng-t'ien treasury the sum of Tls. 12,700 for the purpose of constructing barracks at Newchwang, had now made up the amount and is prepared to refund it. As an act of special grace, and in consideration of the long and diligent service of General Lei Ch'eng-wan, he will be absolved from the repayment of the sum in question.

(2) A Memorial from the Governor of the New Dominion reporting a case of homicide which has come before him for final adjudication. The facts are as follows:—K'olimu, a turbaned Mussulman, lived at Sha-p'ing Chou, where he farmed land for a living. Four years ago he took to wife a woman called Jowapipi, and hired a house to live in from the village headman, this house being shared with his wife's mother, whose name was Huntupipi. Jowapipi was a woman of violent temper and masculine behaviour, and was constantly being taken to task by her husband and mother, with little effect. At last K'olimu, finding that his landlord was making some unpleasant remarks about his wife, determined to leave the house, and accordingly built himself a house of two rooms not far off, into which he prepared to move. They moved house on the 18th of June, and the trio started for their new home, K'olimu leading the way with a bundle of household chattels on his back, which he carried on a staff that was passed through the bundle. Jowapipi came next, and was followed by her mother. The latter having dropped behind, Jowapipi begged her husband to wait for Huntupipi that they might all go together. K'olimu took no notice of his wife's request and continued to trudge along, whereupon his wife caught hold of the bundle on his back and would not let it go, pouring a flood of abuse on him at the same time. K'olimu thereupon lost his temper, put down his bundle, and slipping round behind Jowapipi dealt her a blow on the head with his stick which felled her to the ground. By the time Huntupipi came up, her daughter was already speechless, and she was carried by her husband to their new house, where she lingered for two days and then died. K'olimu was arrested in due course and placed upon his trial, and he has now been sentenced, as required by law, to death by strangulation.

(3) The same officer reports another case of homicide which has been tried in his jurisdiction. In this case the homicide was accidental, a man having unintentionally struck a woman on the head with his hoe which he was brandishing in order to separate two combatants. The woman died from the effects of the blow, and the man has been sentenced to death by strangulation.

February 26th.—The Governor of the Metropolitan Prefecture announces a fall of snow in Peking to the depth of two inches and upwards.

(1) A Decree.—Kuei-f'eng, noble of the twelfth degree, to whom We gave audience this day, had not a single appropriate answer to make to make to the various questions We put to him, his remarks being wilfully inappropriate and surprisingly wide of the mark. Moreover, in advancing and retiring, he was guilty of numerous breaches of etiquette. We command the Imperial Clan Court to determine the penalty which should be imposed upon him.

(2) A Memorial from the Governor-General at Canton praying the sanction of His Majesty to the allotment of a certain number of degrees at the metropolitan and provincial examinations to graduates from Hainan. The island of Hainan is still more important than that of Formosa, and, as earlier suggested by the Marquis Ts'ung, steps have been taken to civilise the

inhabitants thereof. The Financial and Judicial Commissioners of Kuangtung have recently made a representation to the Memorialist, in which they point out that the importance of the island of Hainan has been lately brought to the notice of the Throne, and active measures have been taken for initiating measures of defence, which measures have been supplemented by the gentry who have been urged to organise local train-bands. The rising of the Lis and Hakkas this year induced the Memorialist to suggest the adoption of wholesale measures of reform, which were to commence by purifying the island from within, and, following the line of policy laid down by His Majesty, which was to combine punitive and conciliatory measures, the chief offenders amongst the Lis and Hakkas respectively have been exterminated. The country is now being penetrated by various military expeditions, which are to pacify the people and convert them to civilisation. Money, however, is scarce, and it will be necessary to rely upon the assistance of the local gentry and people if permanent results are to be obtained. Hainan has not been devoid of talented statesmen in the past, as history will show, and there is at the present time an appreciable literary spirit in the island. Distances in the island itself are great, and it is some 600 miles by sea from Canton; but, in spite of this fact, no small number of candidates present themselves at the provincial examinations. The men of Hainan, however, are simple folk, and their literary compositions lack the polish which is necessary to enable them to compete with the inhabitants of the mainland; the result is that during the last ten examinations for the degree of provincial graduate it has often happened that out of seven, eight, or nine hundred candidates from Hainan not a single one has passed. At the metropolitan examinations, attendance at which is still more difficult, not a single candidate obtains a degree, time after time. Before Formosa was constituted a province, two metropolitan degrees and four provincial degrees were reserved for candidates from that island, and it is now suggested that three degrees, civil and military, at the provincial examinations, and one degree at the metropolitan examination, shall be granted to Hainan candidates, provided that ten or more competitors present themselves at the latter examination. These degrees will be taken from the numbers allotted to the Canton province.—The above suggestion, which is cordially endorsed by the Memorialist, is referred by Rescript to the Board of Ceremonies for consideration.

February 27th.—With some unimportant exceptions the whole of this day's issue is occupied with Memorials from the Board of Punishments, Sun Yi-ching, Vice-President of the Board of Revenue, and the Governor of Shantung respectively, on the subject of the alleged extortions committed by Shih En-t'ao, a clerk in the Board of Revenue, when paying over money to an agent of the Governor of Shantung for Yellow River Works. The Board of Revenue state that upon receipt of the first Decree upon the subject, dated December 30th, 1886, they at once sent for Shih En-t'ao and a clerk in the Shantung department of the Board called Ch'en Shih-ch'ang, who were subjected to a rigorous examination by officers deputed for the purpose. Shih En-t'ao deposed that, upon applications from Shantung for the grant of Tls. 1,000,000 for river works, this money was paid over to the Shantung agents in the presence of the high officer in charge of the treasury, and was of full weight and proper touch, and no fees whatsoever were demanded. Ch'en Shih-ch'ang deposed that he drafted the order for payment of the money directly the official application arrived from Shantung, and he had nothing to do with the actual paying over the money, which did not concern his department.

Both strenuously denied that there had been any discount levied on the money, or any extortion whatsoever indulged in. Application was then made to the heads of the Board of Revenue, who replied that the statement of the Shantung department clerk as to the drawing up of the order for payment was correct, and the treasury department of the Board declared that the money was paid in full in the presence of the proper officers on the 7th, 8th, 12th and 17th of December, and receipts were duly given. His Majesty was then requested to direct the Governor of Shantung to take the depositions of the officers deputed by him to take delivery of the money. From these depositions, as embodied by the Governor in a Memorial to the Throne, it would appear that they received various instalments on presenting their applications amounting in all to Tls. 500,000, and that the weights of the logs in which the money was packed were duly tested by the various local authorities at the different stages along the line of route, and receipts given at each stopping place. The officers deputed to receive the money at Peking did, however, hear that they would probably have to pay fees; but, as a matter of fact, the heads of the Board ordered the money to be paid over at once as soon as the applications were presented, and the clerk had no opportunity of "squeezing." The Board concluded with a recommendation that Shih En-t'ao shall be banished for the reasons assigned in the Decree published in the Gazette of February the 18th.

The Memorial of the Governor of Shantung, also published in this day's issue, gives the depositions of the above-mentioned agents in detail. Sun Yi-ching, Vice-President of the Board of Revenue, explains that he himself superintended in person the payment of the money to the agents of the Governor of Shantung, and full weight was given. After the money had been taken delivery of he heard a rumour that Shih En-t'ao had demanded a fee of Tls. 10,000, but that payment had been refused by the agents, and Shih En-t'ao had not been able to impede the delivery of the money because strict orders had been given for its immediate issue. He made minute and secret enquiries, but could obtain no proof whatever of the fact. Having a personal detestation, however, of villainy, he was determined that he would not let the man escape if he had committed the crime with which he was charged, so he caused him to be cashiered, and rigorously questioned him in person. Shih En-t'ao strenuously denied the charge, so he handed him over to the police and tried to inveigle him into the paying Tls. 10,000, meaning, when the money had been handed over, to request His Majesty to punish Shih En-t'ao, whose payment of the money would be a proof of his extortionate propensities. He dismisses the accusation that the Governor of Shantung wrote and asked him to enquire into the matter by proving that no letter could have reached him from Shantung before he examined Shih En-t'ao. (See Gazette of February 18th.)

Meetings.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

At the Meeting of the Council held in the Board Room, No. 23, Kiangse Road, Shanghai, on Thursday, the 3rd March, 1887, at 4 o'clock p.m.

Present:—Messrs. A. G. Wood (Chairman), M. Adler, Th. Bieber, F. D. Bush, D. A. Darling, Yeend Duer, H. H. Joseph, R. de Malherbe, G. J. Morrison, and the following Members of the Old Council:—Messrs. P. Maclean, M. M. Moses, J. F. Seaman, and the Secretary.

The Minutes of the last Meeting are read, confirmed, signed by the Chairman, and passed for publication.

Inspection of Police Force.—The members of the two Councils then proceeded to the Court Yard adjoining the Central Station where the Police Force was drawn up for inspection. After the Inspection, Mr. A. G. Wood, as Chairman of the outgoing Council complimented the men upon their smart appearance on Parade and informed them that he had much pleasure in expressing to them the satisfaction of the Council at the efficient manner in which all the members of the force had performed their duties during the past year and he hoped the relations between the Council and the Police for the future would continue of the same friendly nature as at present. On returning to the Board Room, Mr. Wood states that there is no outstanding business to which it is necessary specially to direct the attention of the New Council, and the old members then retire, Mr. Maclean in their name expressing his gratification at the amicable manner in which all Municipal matters had been conducted during their year of office.

The following Office Bearers for the year are then appointed:—

Chairman.—Mr. A. G. Wood.

Vice-Chairman.—Mr. G. J. Morrison.

Finance Committee.—Messrs. Th. Bieber, F. D. Bush and H. H. Joseph.

Works Committee.—Messrs. A. G. Wood, D. A. Darling and Yeend Duer.

Watch and Defence Committee.—Messrs. G. J. Morrison, M. Adler and R. de Malherbe.

Cash Statement for the past week is submitted, and cheques for sundry accounts are signed.

Cattle in Native Dairies.—The following report is ordered to be published:—

RETURN OF ANIMALS KEPT AT THE NATIVE DAIRIES.
Shanghai, 28th February, 1887.

Locality of Dairy	Native cow sold.	Buffalo calf born.	Decrease 1
Local (New Bazaar Road)	12	1	11
Brookway No. 2	20	1	19
" " No. 3	24	1	23
" " No. 4	24	1	23
Lee Hongkew	2	1	1
Woosung Road	2	1	1
Sinua Village	11	1	10
" " No. 2	6	1	5
" " No. 3	20	1	19
Tab-hoo Dairy	34	1	33
French Road to Sincue	18	1	17
Yuen-sung and sung-tee	9	1	8
Pai-sien-joh (South)	20	1	19
Near Ningpo Joss House (Apying)	31	1	30
Owong's Hing-sai	31	1	30
Zoo Butler and Hing-sai	9	1	8
South of Fuh-sien-joh	18	1	17
Ali-Cho	11	1	10
Neeching and Sik Chan	26	1	25
Sun-wo and Dong-ko	17	1	16
Louza Bridge	17	1	16
Total	372	169	203

I inspected the cattle kept at the above named places on Monday, Wednesday and Friday of last week and found them all in good health and condition.

JAMES A. WOOD,
Submitted, J.H. Asst. Insp. of Markets, &c.

Markets.—Report by the Inspector is submitted stating that during February

the markets and butchers' shops which supply Foreigners, were visited daily and always found well provided with good and wholesome articles of food. The number of animals killed to supply the Foreign Markets has been—Oxen 504, Sheep 1,141, Calves 121, Pigs 47; and at the Grease shops in Native use—Oxen 17, Water Buffaloes 17, Sheep 8, and Ponies 7. Notices have been issued by the Mixed Court Magistrate notifying the Dealers that the sale of Game and Wild Fowl is prohibited after the 10th instant. There has been some sickness amongst the Pigs kept on the outskirts of the Settlement, which has carried off a good many of them but the disease is not contagious and is caused by the cold wet weather and the filthy condition of the places where the animals are kept.

The ponies at the Native Livery Stable are free from disease but many continue in poor condition.

There is a decrease in the number of carriages plying for hire only 219 having been licensed for March against 234 last month and 181 for same month last year.

Licenses have been issued for 2,796 Jinnicks and 2,283 Wheelbarrows.

Native Theatres.—The following letter from the Senior Consul is read and ordered to be published.

H.M. Consulate General,
Shanghai, 28th Feb., 1887.

SIR,—I have the honor to send herewith five copies of a proclamation issued by the Mixed Court Magistrate and stamped by me at his request, which the Magistrate begs may be posted at the five principal Chinese theatres in the Settlement. The object of the proclamation is to prohibit the performance of immoral and indecent plays, and I further venture to request that the Council will be good enough to give instructions to have the Magistrate's orders strictly enforced.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

P. J. HUGHES,
H.B.M.'s Consul-General
and Senior Consul.

A. G. Wood, Esq.,
Chairman, Municipal Council.

In compliance with this request the proclamations are ordered to be handed to the Police to be posted at the Theatres.

Volunteers.—The following letter from Major Morrison is submitted:—

Shanghai, 22nd February, 1887.

SIR,—I have the honour to enclose a letter from Lieutenant Burgoyne, stating that Capt. Lanning, having resigned his commission in confirming with Standing Order IX, was unanimously re-elected to the post of Captain of No. 3 Company at a general meeting of the Company held on the 11th instant. I also enclose Captain Lanning's commission and I have to ask you to have it endorsed as being confirmed for a further period of 3 years from the 22nd October 1886 the date on which it lapsed.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

G. JAMES MORRISON,
Major Commanding.

A. G. Wood, Esq.,
Chairman of the Municipal Council.

Decided to approve of the re-election of Captain Lanning and to confirm his Commission as requested.

Disbanding of No. 4 Company.—Major Morrison states that he has received a letter from Capt. Dauenberg intimating that he and Lieutenants Senna and Pereira have resigned the Commissions which they held as officers of No. 4 Company, as it has been disbanded by the vote of its own members.

Decided that under the circumstances the resignations must be accepted and that the thanks of the Council be tendered to these officers for the services they have rendered whilst in the Shanghai Volunteer Corps.

The Meeting then adjourned.

THE SHANGHAI LIBRARY.

The annual general meeting of the subscribers to the Shanghai Library was held on Friday evening. Mr. P. J. Hughes, H.B.M.'s Consul-General, presiding.

The Hon. Sec. (Mr. Latham) having read the minutes of the previous meeting; The following report and statement of accounts were submitted:—

The Committee have to report a successful year's working. The income derived from subscriptions is larger than in any recent year, and the Committee have consequently decided to increase the supply of books, both English and American.

The debit balance of last year has been cleared off, and a credit balance of Tls. 65.22 is shown, but against this there is a debt of Tls. 186.90 on the New Catalogue Account, which sum has not been met by the sale of Catalogues, and which must be paid out of the general funds.

During the year 230 works consisting of 313 volumes have been added to the Library, and 11,062 works (as against 9,730 in 1885) have been issued to subscribers, exclusive of periodicals, all of which have been extensively circulated.

The amount expended for books during the year was Tls. 757.51.

The New Catalogue has been written up to date and a complete interleaved copy can always be seen and consulted at the Library.

Considerable repairs to the building have recently been executed, and the cost thereof divided in equal shares between the Royal Asiatic Society and this Society. This outlay will appear in the accounts for 1887. It will also be necessary to spend about Tls. 40 on new Shelves.

Mr. and Mrs. Gale have carried on all the work of the Library during the year in the most efficient manner.

The thanks of the members are due to Mr. E. Ward for kindly auditing the accounts.

P. J. HUGHES,
President of the Committee.

ABSTRACT OF THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF THE SHANGHAI LIBRARY FOR THE YEAR 1886.

Dec. 31st, 1886.	Dr.	Tls.
To Subscriptions 1885-86 less unpaid Tls.	1,625.00	1,625.00
" Sale of Catalogues	47.80	47.80
" Sale of Box and Postages	2.21	2.21
" Rent of Museum 1885	150.00	150.00
" Municipal Council Subscription	100.00	100.00
" Interest from Bank	1,022.09	1,022.09
		2.55
		Tls. 1,924.94

Jan. 1st and Dec. 31st, 1886.	Cr.	Tls.
By Balance brought forward from 1885.	223.39	223.39
" Rent of Library Building 1885	100.00	100.00
" Insurance on Books and Building	25.00	25.00
" Books bought in Europe and Shanghai	767.51	767.51
" Librarian's Salary one year	540.00	540.00
" Kelly & Walsh on Catalogue Account	33.50	33.50
" L. Stationery etc.	13.63	13.63
" Lee Tai, Numbering, Binding etc.	47.59	47.59
" Mr. Gale's Expenses, Gas, Coal and extra wages Loughing	81.80	81.80
" Mr. Gale's Cost of Book Box and Postages	2.21	2.21
" Daily News Advertising etc.	25.03	25.03
" Courier and Mercury Advertising	3.25	3.25
" Loughing China New Year's Present \$5	3.68	3.68
" Land Tax	1.48	1,859.72
" Balance at Bank	74.75	74.75
" Lessowing to Honorary Treasurer	9.53	63.22
		Tls. 1,924.94

DEPENDENCIES 31st December, 1886.	Assets.	Tls.
By Rent of Museum 1886	150.00	150.00
" Unselected Subscriptions 1886	25.00	25.00
" Amount to Balance	627.15	802.15
		602.15
Liabilities.		
To Rent of Library 1886	100.00	100.00
" Share of Repairs	65.25	65.25
" Kelly & Walsh Catalogue Account	138.00	138.00
" J. B. in, London Books last half year 1886 about	450.00	802.15
		802.15

E. & O. E.
Shanghai, February, 1887.
T. LATHAM,
Honorary Secretary.

Audited and found correct.
E. WARD.

The CHAIRMAN said—It will be seen by the Report that the subscribers, taking the average of the past few years, are increasing in number. The number of books taken out during the year has been considerable

and is likely to be still greater. We learn from the Librarian that the appetite for literature is continually increasing, and indeed it is in some cases quite phenomenal. Large as our purchases have been in the past, we shall have to make them still larger in the future. The Library is now so well known that it has not been thought necessary to advertise it constantly. Our best advertisement, it has been well remarked, is the appearance of the Library books in every Drawing Room. There is little doubt that the intelligence which distinguishes the community is due in great measure to the Library. If the institution could be supported on the system of payment by results, and payment received in proportion to the good it does and the pleasure it gives, its finances would be flourishing indeed. But as it is, we are doing very well. Our present policy is not to decrease the rates of subscription which are moderate, but to increase our book supply, and we trust that this policy may meet your approval.

Mr. MORSE said it would be better to increase the number of books.

Dr. WILLIAMSON proposed and Dr. FARNHAM seconded the adoption of the report and accounts which were passed unanimously.

Mr. A. DALLAS suggested that a few dollars might be well spent in improving the gas burners as at the present time the light was very feeble, the style of burners being very antiquated.

Mr. MORSE thought that a star jet overhead coming down to about ten feet from the floor might be substituted for the present lighting arrangement.

Mr. LATHAM said they should consult the Gas Company as to whether the existing pipes were large enough to carry a supply for a star jet.

It was decided that the Committee would consider the matter and consult with the Gas Company.

The election of a Committee was next proceeded with.

Mr. LATHAM said he would propose that the present Committee consisting of Messrs. Hughes, Morrison, Morse, Latham, with Mr. A. J. How be elected to serve for the ensuing year, but that he was a member of the Committee and Secretary himself he would rather that some one else proposed it.

Mr. DALLAS proposed and Dr. FARNHAM seconded the resolution which was carried unanimously.

An informal conversation took place as to the selection of books, management etc., and Mr. Latham observed that if they had a less efficient librarian a much larger share of work would devolve upon the Committee. The force of circumstances compelled them to have their books selected in London and he thought they were very well selected. At one time they thought that they would get American books from Boston direct, but it was found not to work satisfactorily. The selection was now left to their London agent, and the Committee had written to him to send them the best American books. Mr. Morse, one of the Committee, having gone to a good deal of trouble on the subject.

Dr. FARNHAM observed that he saw they had got Gen. Grant's life, but not Blain's "Twenty Years in Congress" and he thought that they would do well to procure a copy of that excellent work.

It was resolved to act upon Dr. Farnham's suggestion.

The CHAIRMAN observed that the Library would probably be soon transferred to the Town Hall, which is to be erected in commemoration of the Jubilee year. (Laughter.)

Mr. MORSE—The corner stone is not yet laid. (Laughter.)

The meeting separated with votes of thanks to the Chairman, and the Hon. Sec. and to the librarian for the efficient discharge of his duties.

Report.

CHINA SUGAR REFINING COMPANY LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the annual general meeting, to be held at the offices of the General Agents, at noon, on Thursday, the 10th March.

The general agents beg to submit to the shareholders their report on the working of the refineries and a statement of accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1886.

The past year has been one of activity in sugar refining, and the general agents are glad to be able to present a working account showing a result which, it is hoped, will be considered satisfactory by the shareholders.

Inclusive of \$13,451.51 brought forward from last year the net balance at credit of profit and loss is \$161,781.53. which the general agents and consulting committee recommend should be appropriated as follows:—

In payment of a dividend of \$12 per share	\$108,000.00
To apply towards reduction of Property Account	40,000.00
Carry forward to next Account	13,781.53

\$161,781.53

Advices of sales have been received and Estimates of results of outstanding shipments carefully made, and the amount of this asset will, it is expected, be fully realized.

Refining at East Point has been carried on continuously throughout the year, and the demand for refined sugar in August seemed to warrant the increase of production by working the Bowington establishment. Demand in Swatow having fallen off, it was resolved to transfer the refining staff at that port to Hongkong, and work was commenced at Bowington on 31st August. These works were stopped for overhaul and general repair during December, and some improvements, which experience suggested during the working, have been introduced. Refining was resumed on 3rd January, 1887, and the house at East Point then closed for similar overhaul. This has been done very thoroughly, and work was again begun on 26th January, with satisfactory results.

The stock of refined sugar at Swatow was gradually disposed of, and the refinery there since the transfer of the staff to Hongkong has been silent. It is contemplated to resume work at an early date.

Property account.—In March, 1886, the property in Bowington known as the Lee Yuen Sugar Refinery, was advertised for sale, and the general agents, with the sanction of the Consulting Committee, acquired this property and stock of working stores by purchase.

A portion of the Wanchi property, not required for the business of the Company, was disposed of by sale, at auction, on 24th November, the gross price realized being \$40,600. Advantage may be taken during current year of a favourable moment to dispose of the remainder of this lot. The construction of a new Godown, necessitated by the requirements of the business, has been begun at East Point.

Debenture Bonds.—These have now been all redeemed.

Capital.—The redemption of debenture bonds, and acquisition of the property of the Lee Yuen refinery have entailed onerous responsibilities upon the general agents in providing funds, and it is not desirable that the Company should be such a large borrower, nor incur a heavy charge for interest. After due consideration, the general agents and Consulting Committee have decided to recommend that the capital of the Company be increased by \$600,000; to be issued at par, and offered *pro rata* to shareholders on the register the 25th Feb., 1887. An extraordinary general meeting to authorize this has been called, and

appropriate resolutions will be laid before shareholders.

Consulting Committee.—Mr. E. R. Belilios having resigned the Board on his departure from the colony, Mr. J. B. Elias was invited to the vacant seat. The present Committee offer themselves for re-election.

Auditors.—The accounts have been audited by Messrs. Thos. Arnold and H. M. Bevis, and both gentlemen are recommended for re-election.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Agents.

Hongkong, 1st March, 1887.

Amusements.

THE SALINGER OPERA COMPANY.

Notwithstanding the counter-attraction at the French Municipal Hall, there was a fairly large audience at the Lyceum on Thursday night, to see the first performance of the Salinger troupe in the "Pirates of Penzance." Our Hongkong contemporaries seem to have come unanimously to the conclusion that this is not the opera in which this troupe makes the best display of its powers, and it is therefore to be regretted that it was chosen for the opening in Shanghai. Except the "Mikado," there is none of Gilbert and Sullivan's operas that has more good music in it than the "Pirates," and it therefore seems a pity for a company that is not strong vocally to attempt it on the first night, when their powers are lessened by the nervousness incidental to a first performance before a strange audience, and an audience that has the reputation of being somewhat capricious, if not critical. The change too from the climate of Hongkong to that of Shanghai in the Spring, is commonly disastrous to vocalists, and it says a great deal for the company, that with all these disadvantages they achieved a decided success, if the applause of the audience is to be taken as a criterion. Some of the public may have expected more, though it is unreasonable to expect to hear a Savoy Company in the Far East, but no one left the theatre disappointed or dissatisfied. To begin with General Stanley's daughters, they have the initial merit of being young, charming to the eye, and well-dressed, while Miss Tilly Saroney (*Mabel*) has a very attractive soprano voice, which is quite equal to the demands made upon it by the part. In fact, she is as good a light soprano as one could hope to hear in Shanghai, her voice is round and sweet, and produced without effort, and had she a little more expression, she would be a quite satisfactory exponent of the *ingenue* rôles in Gilbert and Sullivan's operas. Her personal appearance is all that the most exacting could desire, and she has not to rely on her voice to conquer the deficiencies of her figure, as has been the case with some of the middle-aged *soprano* who have visited us in time past. Miss Lena Salinger is little less than a genius. She is so bright, so full of vivacity and of evident enjoyment of her rôle, that she has not been five seconds on the stage before she has brought the audience into sympathy, and though her voice last night was metallic, which must be partly attributed to cold and nervousness, she made *Edith*, originally a part of no moment, one of the most noticeable characters. Miss Alice Emmett, as *Kate*, had not much to do, but she seconded *Edith* well, and did sufficiently all that was required of her, the picture of Major-General Stanley being consoled by his three daughters, in the second act, being a very pretty one.

Of the gentlemen, Mr. Rigby, who played Grossmith's part of *Major-General Stanley*, decidedly takes the lead. It was a finished performance, in which full justice was done to the music, and the celebrated patter song in the first act was deservedly encored. Mr. d'Este, as

the *Pirate King*, delivered his great song, "I am a Pirate King," with robust energy, and it was well received, while throughout he played his part well. Mr. G. C. Wilson, as *Samuel*, the pirate lieutenant, has not very much to do, but what he did was done successfully. The leading tenor's part, *Frederick*, is, to say the truth, a somewhat stupid rôle, and does not give many opportunities to the actor. Mr. Fawcett's voice is strong, but not very sweet, while his acting was sufficient: we should like to see him in a part with Miss Lena Salinger, who would probably bring out of him more feeling than he showed on Thursday. Mr. H. Salinger as the *Sergeant of Police*, was received with great applause by the gallery, but he was quite cut out by the really extraordinary merit of his *Corporal*, Master Magnus, a somewhat infant phenomenon, who was equally amusing as a pirate in the first act. He is another proof that low comedians are born, not made, for in spite of a very eccentric make-up, he kept the hours in roars of delight. It is rather ungallant to leave Miss Elsa Wilson, *Ruth*, to the last, and indeed we ought to be grateful to any one who will take the ungrateful elderly parts that Mr. Gilbert is so fond of inserting in his operas: it was played by Miss Wilson exactly as it ought to be. On the whole, Mr. Salinger's is a very good all-round company, with two performers of genius in it, Miss Lena and Master Magnus, a charming *prima donna*, and several good actors, and we have no doubt that now the company is assured of the friendliness of their audience, and can feel more at home at the Lyceum, they will have a large house, and a great success, in the "*Cloches de Corneville*" to-night. Mr. H. W. Powys Wood accompanied at the piano, which seemed to be rather high, Mr. Ibarg and a member of the customs band giving invaluable assistance on the violin. The dresses were all good, and the scenery, from the A.D. C. stock, re-inforced by some belonging to the troupe, was very good.

12th March.

Planquette's "*Les Cloches de Corneville*" is beyond question one of the most popular of the modern comic operas. Not only is it full of tuneful melodies, which the audience can carry away with it, and which have permanently enriched the world's stock of bright music, but it has an intelligible story, and gives valuable opportunities for the display of the artists' powers of acting as well as of singing. It is thus better suited to the capabilities of the company now with us than the "*Pirates*," and these opportunities were not neglected on Saturday. There was a large and well-disposed audience, whose good humour reacted on the performers, and the result was a very successful representation. Miss Tillie Saroney took the part of *Serpellette*, and sang and acted with great animation, her rendering of the well-known song at the fair, "Just look at that, just look at this" being deservedly encored. There was no exaggeration of gesture, nor too much constraint, while her appearance as the mock countess in the last act was most effective. In *Germaine*, Miss Lena Salinger had not the same opportunity for the display of her powers as an actress as in the "*Pirates*," but the quiet grace with which she played the part was very charming, and she was in much better voice than on Thursday; it is curious how often the tones of her voice and her style remind the spectator of the ever young and brilliant Nelly Farron. The little that falls to *Manette* and *Susanne* was brightly done by Miss Wilson and Miss Emmett, and the chorus was augmented by the presence of another young lady whose name did not appear on the programme. Mr. Rigby took the part of the *Marquis de Corneville*, and again showed himself a finished actor, but the music is too high for his voice, as it is for

most English baritone voices, and his songs suffered accordingly. In the part of the *Baillie*, Mr. d'Este was not so well suited as in that of the *Pirate King*; he is hardly a low comedian by nature, and his humour was somewhat forced and spasmodic. Such a ridiculous character as that of the *Baillie* requires to be played with the greatest caution to be at all credible. Mr. G. Foster made his début with this company in the part of *Gobo*; he was ludicrous enough in appearance, but he did not make nearly as much out of the absurdities of the rôle as his predecessor in the *Mascottes*. Mr. Fawcett rendered with a good deal of spirit the somewhat ungrateful part of *Grénichette*, and gave his songs well and assisted manfully in the choruses; he has a really fine voice, and knows how to use it. The performance of the "*Cloches*" in London will always be memorable for the really wonderful acting of the part of *Gaspard*, the miser, by Mr. Sheil Barry, and it is praising Mr. N. Salinger very highly, but not more highly than he deserved, to say that he was a worthy successor to Mr. Barry. He had thoroughly studied the rôle, was excellently made-up, and carried the character through with a sustained power really remarkable in so young an actor; while, although his voice is anything but strong, he was quite equal to the music set down for him, and was as repellent as the miser in the second, as he was sympathetic as the madman in the last act. The "*Cloches*" would be ruined without a good representative of *Gaspard*, and Mr. Salinger is to be congratulated on having two sons of so much talent as Mr. Herbert and Master Magnus. The latter had only a trifling rôle on Saturday night, but he was quite sufficient in it, as was Mr. Wilson as *Pierre*. The scenery was all that could be wished, and the choruses, which were fuller than on Thursday, went very well. The accompaniment by Mr. Wood, assisted by Mr. Ibarg and another violin, tended greatly to the success of the evening. Good acting, fair singing, and pretty faces, will always attract audiences in Shanghai, as elsewhere, and Mr. Salinger has reason to expect a long and prosperous season in Shanghai, if he continues to present operas as satisfactorily as he did the "*Cloches de Corneville*."

THE COMPAGNIE FRANÇAISE.

The French opera bouffe troupe had the encouragement of a very full audience at their performance in the Salle des Fêtes de la Municipalité Française on Thursday night under the auspices of the French Dramatic Club. It only remains to be said that their efforts were warmly appreciated and entirely successful. The pity is that the theatre-going people of Shanghai did not give this excellent but small troupe more encouragement before, for they are a very talented quintette, and possess artistic merit far above that of most travelling companies in the East. It was extremely pleasant to observe that there was not a single vacant seat in the place. The programme was an admirably chosen one, opening with Labiche's amusing, though somewhat risky, vaudeville "*Le Gargon de Chez Véry*," in which M. Batréau as *Adolph* sustained his previous good reputation as a low comedian of excellent capabilities and full of really humorous "business." Mme. Henriot as *Mme. Galimard* was graceful and vivacious, and the other two artists who made up the cast, Messieurs Legros and Henriot as *Galimard* and *Alexandre*, left little to be desired. "*Les Charbonniers*," an Opérette by Costé, followed and the admirable acting and make-up of M. Batréau as *Didard* created constant laughter. Mme. Armandini as *Thérèse Valcébreque* showed excellent appreciation of the humour of her part, while the vocal portion of her representa-

tion was very pleasing. M. Henriot who played *Pierre Cargougnol* sang with proper spirit and correctness, although his partiality for the *tremolo* is a decided defect. The part of *Tardivel* was made the utmost of by M. Legros, who came in for his share of the applause which the piece repeatedly received. Offenbach's well-known and favourite opérette "*Tromb-Al-Ca-Zar*" concluded the programme, and its bright but brief numbers sent the audience away in high spirits. Again Mme. Armandini as *Gigolette*, and M. Henriot as *Beaujolais*, secured the vocal honours, the lady, whose acting also was clear and full of vivacity, being the very deserving recipient of a bouquet, from the front row. The facial play, make-up, and acting generally, of M. Batréau as *Vert-panné* were intensely funny and kept the audience in constant laughter, while M. Legros also displayed much ability and humour as *Ignace*. The entire performance was full of life, and the interest never flagged.

FOOT PAPER CHASE HANDICAP.

This interesting event, postponed on account of weather from Saturday last, took place on Friday. Clearance of Tientsin steamers, volunteering, &c. prevented many of the staunchest athletes from competing, but the 9 who did start had a most enjoyable run, in most enjoyable weather.

The course had been "carefully selected" (as chaszees say) by an ex Hon. Sec. of the S.A.C., and he was ably and cordially assisted by Mr. J. A. Sullivan.

Comins, one of the hares got home to the S.A.C. grounds just in time to start and supervise the hounds, and though he did not (and did not pretend) to take the full course, yet by cutting corners he—helped by Catterall managed to direct the hunt, and prevent such mishaps as might have arisen from the kindness of the wily native in relaying the paper. The course though but 5 miles long was as varied as could be expected in this stale, flat, and unprofitable country.

Starting with one or two biggish jumps off the Recreation Ground it settled into an artful course of education, which beginning with small things led up to agony, earthquakes, and deadly perils. Perpendicular mounds and mighty graves had to be stormed, sullen creeks crossed on overhanging pollards, a standing jump made off a bridge into an oozy creek which gave uncertain hopes of a crossing on stepping pipples—to call such excrescences stepping stones would be to desecrate a noble language. The crossing of a small lagoon by a curiously formed overhanging tree was a romance in itself and calls to mind the turgid tales that fired our veins in boyhood's happy hours. As *Præd* would say—it was

A jump unlike most other jumps,
It caused a sigh, a little shiver,
A thought of broken necks or stumps,
And fly not yet into the river.
Some jealousy of some one there
Some fear of seeming chicken-hearted
A leap, a hurdle through the air,
The usual grunt, and on we darted.

'Twas an ugly jump—a 10 foot drop, and 10 foot forwards from a branch hanging 30 feet over a lagoon. All throughout the hunt the hounds kept well together. They started gaily and kept their peckers up till they came to "*Scylla* and *Charybdis* or the Devil and the deep sea;" this was a flat jump over a deep cut 11 foot creek—"Pooh" says the reader—"when I was a young man, etc."—not so fast my friend: true the two banks were level, but the far one was like a wall, perpendicular, standing 4 feet out of the water, only 2 feet broad at the top, and with a pond on the far side. One gentleman tried to stand on his head in this pond. A crawl through the bowels of a ditch which revelled in the shade of an overhanging thorn hedge caused yells, heartrending as when the 40 thieves sank in their oily graves.

The heavy weights, Schlee and E. W. Noël were allowed some short cuts. Schlee showed great pluck and determination and was the first home by a long way. Of the light weights, P. Y. Smith was leading at the race course, but had to take second place to R. S. Harris in the run home. Scorning to take any handicap allowance, all nine hounds started even, viz., R. S. Harris, 1st on full course, Schlee winner of heavy weights, P. Y. Smith, J. L. Jensen, H. H. Gilby, C. Tullock, Petersen, E. W. Noël, and C. Comins, (the last named, having already run as hare, took short cuts). QUIP.

Correspondence.

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL OF HONGKONG
IN REPLY.

To the Editor of the
NORTH CHINA DAILY NEWS.
General Post Office,
Hongkong, 3rd March, 1887.

SIR,—With reference to the interesting letter on the Postal question signed by "A dweller in the Outports," which appeared in your columns on the 26th February, I venture to remark that the state of confusion sketched by the writer as likely to occur under a Customs Postal regime, in the matter of despatching late letters, is entirely imaginary. The Custom Post Office would probably have an officer on board each steamer making up a supplementary mail till the last moment, but whether this were so or not, there would be reciprocity between China and Hongkong as regards loose letters. That is to say, loose letters from Hongkong to China with Hongkong stamps would be passed as paid, and loose letters from China to Hongkong or places beyond would be passed as paid if they bore sufficient Chinese stamps. Such reciprocity already exists between Hongkong and Japan. Hongkong stamps would not be procurable at the ports except by private arrangement.

I may also point out that in case China enters the Postal Union the normal rate of postage could not exceed the equivalent of 50 centimes.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,
Your obedient servant,
A. LISTER,
Postmaster General, Hongkong.

THE CALENDARS FOR THIS YEAR.

To the Editor of the
NORTH CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—In reference to the remarks made in your columns, concerning the length of the second month of this year, permit me to say that the "Ten thousand year calendar," which was calculated for the meridian of Peking is quite correct in making the 2nd month contain twenty-nine days, and the 3rd month thirty days.

The new moon in question falls on March 24th at 4h. 9' 42" Greenwich, mean time i.e. adding on 7h. 45' 54" (longitude of Peking) at 11h. 55' 36" Peking mean time or as the Chinese reckon by apparent time about 11h. 49' p.m. apparent time. As therefore at Peking the new moon falls before midnight, March 24th should be the 1st day of the 3rd month and the 2nd month should only contain twenty-nine days.

At Shanghai the new moon falls after midnight, but for China, the meridian of Peking is the standard meridian.

It is hard to say why the astronomical board in their yearly calendar did not adhere to the "Ten thousand year calendar" in their calculations. It would be better in the future for "Anglo-Chinese" calendars to follow the order of the days, etc. as given in the Chinese native calendar, though wrong for the sake of convenience.

S. M. RUSSELL.

T'ung-wen College, Peking,
22nd Feb.

THE CHORAL SOCIETY'S CONCERT.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—I was very glad to see, by your paragraph in this morning's issue, that the Committee of the Choral Society have had the courage to endeavour to initiate a much wanted reform in the direction of economy in regard to popular entertainments, and I sincerely hope that they will persevere in it, and receive general public support. There can be but one opinion as to its wisdom, and good sense. In fact it is a case of sense versus sentiment, and the plaintiff should get a prompt and unanimous verdict. The motto of the Choral Society should be, "Music for the Million, not for Millionaires." I heard some one murmur this morning, "fancy having to pay a miserable 50 cents." Well if he prefers to pay a "magnificent 3 dollars," there is nothing to prevent him, and he can throw away the odd 5 tickets, and so experience the soothing sensation that his ticket has cost him the regulation 3 dollars.

Yours,
BRAVO! CHORAL COMMITTEE.

15th March.

THE DELAY IN PUBLISHING THE CUSTOMS' RETURNS.

We have received the following Correspondence for publication:—

Shanghai General Chamber
of Commerce,

Shanghai, 7th March, 1887.

SIR,—The Committee of the Chamber have noticed that very frequently of late there have been long intervals between the arrival and departure of vessels and the published reports of their cargoes in the Customs Daily Returns; in some instances several months have elapsed after a vessel has arrived or left before the particulars of the cargo are given, e.g.

Imports—Entered—	Dec. given in No. 44....	25 Feb., '87.
Exports—Cleared—	Oct. " " 45....	26 " "
	Dec. " " 42....	23 " "
	Dec. " " 43....	24 " "
	Nov. " " 44....	25 " "
	Dec. " " 45....	26 " "
	Nov. " " 46....	27 " "

The consequence is that the Returns lose very much of their value to merchants, and I am therefore instructed to bring the matter to your notice in the hope that you may be able to devise some means by which such particulars may always be published within a few days after the entry or clearance of vessels.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,
Your obedient servant,
GEO. R. CORNER,
Secretary.

To H. E. HOBSON, Esq.,
H.I.M. Commissioner of Customs,
Shanghai.

Custom House,

Shanghai, 14th March, 1887.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 7th instant in which you bring to my notice the delay which occurs from time to time in publishing particulars of cargoes in the Customs Daily Returns, and at the instance of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, request that some means be devised for affording earlier information in this connection. In reply, I beg to say that I have brought the matter to the notice not only of the Returns Department but also of Mr. Statistical Secretary Drew, and have little doubt but that every effort will be made to meet the wishes of your Committee.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
H. ELGAR HOBSON,
Commissioner of Customs.

To GEO. R. CORNER, Esq.,
Secretary, Shanghai General Chamber
of Commerce.

Miscellaneous.

CHINA—THE SLEEP AND THE AWAKENING.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

I have no time now to write a full criticism on the article "The sleep and the awakening of China" in the *Asiatic* by Marquis Tseng, but if I had I would call attention to the dissimulating way the burning of the Summer Palace is treated, by the noble Marquis, trying first to disparage its importance by merely allowing that it "singled China's eyebrows," and afterwards allowing it was a "high price to pay for the lesson we there received," while he seems unwilling to admit what the lesson given to China really was. If you turn up Lord Elgin's special mission to China, his letter referring to why he ordered the palace to be burnt, shows it was as a punishment to China for her treachery and bad faith committed in the imprisonment and murder of British subjects. This lesson, viz: to avoid any such bad conduct in future, seems so have never been thought of by Marquis Tseng. He will not admit that it was a moral lesson. He is too intent in praising the non-aggressive and considerate conduct of China to allow for an instant, that she deserved that "fire" as a punishment for a criminal aggression and cruelty combined with a base breach of faith on her part. He regards it rather as an injustice done to his country, and expresses a determination to even repeat the evil conduct that the "fire" was sent to punish by "triple fortifying his battered armour," so as to be able to do it again with impunity. I would remark at the same time that the Marquis boasts of China's never being aggressive, although every day indicates that she is meditating a military occupation of Corea against all justice, and contrary to her own declaration, that she has no right to interfere in the internal affairs of that country.

What trust can be placed in the Marquis's pacific declarations about Tibet and Chinese Turkestan when the other so-called vassal state, Corea, which is classed with them, is already vaguely threatened with absorption, or in other words with war and conquest, as if she were an inimical state without right to self-existence? China's present intrigues in and action towards Corea are the answer to and disavowal of Marquis Tseng's hypocritical assurances of friendliness to Great Britain, against which our Government need be on its guard incessantly.

9th March.

Miscellaneous Intelligence.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer		Thermometer in shade.		Hygrometer at 9 a.m.		Wind.	Rain-fall in inches previous 24 hours.
	10 A.M.	Attached Therm.	Max.	Min.	Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.		
Mar 10	30.34	45.0	48.5	39.0	45.0	43.0	1 N.E.	..
11	30.15	40.0	50.5	38.0	49.0	47.5	4 S.E.	..
12	30.15	50.0	56.0	43.0	50.0	48.5	5 S.W.	..
13	30.36	44.0	51.0	43.0	44.0	41.0	3 N.E.	..
14	30.25	45.0	49.0	41.0	45.0	43.0	1 S.	..
15	30.25	47.0	51.5	43.0	47.0	45.0	3 S.W.	..
16	30.27	46.5	50.0	42.0	46.5	44.0	4 N.E.	..

EXPLANATION.

Initials: b blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (duil) r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; x. calm. Force from 1 to 21 estimated.

PRICE OF THE NORTH-CHINA HERALD and S. C. & C. GAZETTE.—Per Annum, Taels 12; Six Months, Taels 6.00. Three Months, 3.50—all payable in advance. Credit price, Tls. 13.15 per Annum; Subscriptions will be considered as renewed unless notice to the contrary be given before the expiry of the current term.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, 15th March, 1887.

PIECE GOODS.—Confirmation of the telegraphic news noted in our report of this day week was received here by steamer from Tientsin on the 9th instant. The first shipments thither, we now learn, met with a quick and profitable sale, and the orders brought thence for further supplies, combined with advices of fairly encouraging tenour from almost every other dependency, and the very substantial remittances which accompanied all, have added strength to this market, and further improved the values of the goods that are specially wanted. But, unfortunately for the concerned, the stocks of such are either greatly reduced, or quite exhausted, and the replacing cost being distasteful alike to importers and buyers, there is only a limited business for record to-day. Demand, however, seems urgent, and this same, in the face of the heavy off-take registered on the page 307 hereof, is powerful evidence of a healthy trade. And, sure, there never was such another week of *Re-Exports* from Shanghai in the whole course of its history as an open port. Leastways "the oldest inhabitant recollects none such. And if the pace were only to be kept up for a little time! What a vision for Manchester! Every loom in Lancashire engaged in full blast, and still unable to meet the requirements of China! And, moreover, what a prospect for our poor Consuls! No more revivings for you, nor demands upon you for the absurd and impracticable; no more calls upon you to lecture the home Chambers of Commerce when enjoying your well earned furloughs; but an endless reign of peace and felicity. Nothing to do, with oceans of time to do it in! But, to return to the prosaic, for we cannot even dream of entering Elysium just yet. That fickle hussy Exchange alone would capsize all such aspirations. Dependence upon it is a thing of the past entirely. The past week has witnessed another of her wild flings, and a drop of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. a $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per Tael at one fell swoop, so to speak, and still weak is no light consideration in the economy of importers. It has stripped the gilt off their meditations consumedly, and engendered within them feelings of comparative indifference—if not worse—with reference to the past, and fear and trembling with regard to the future.

The clearances for Tientsin this season thus far published by *The Customs*, as against those for the corresponding mails in 1886 and 1885, are:—

	1887.	1886.	1885.		1887.	1886.	1885.
<i>Grey Shirts</i> pc.	282,030	205,100	103,000	<i>Jeans, English</i> pc.	25,040	20,400	4,300
<i>White do.</i>"	89,065	10,600	55,400	<i>Do. American</i>"	4,700	...	...
<i>Drills, English</i>"	22,970	34,400	12,000	<i>Sheetings, English</i>"	6,010	3,100	4,300
<i>Do. American</i>"	25,200	25,700	3,000	<i>Do. American</i>"	117,572	124,400	23,500
<i>Prints</i>"	37,104	20,000	9,000	<i>Im. Cashmeres</i>"	4,259	9,900	7,000
<i>Turkey Reds</i>"	20,295	16,400	17,900	<i>Cotton Lastings</i>"	37,692	36,400	24,900
<i>Spanish Stripes</i>"	948	1,600	600	<i>Lastings</i>"	2,981	2,440	1,400
<i>Figured Lustres</i>"	1,840	1,450	1,880	<i>Cotton Yarn</i>"	8,184	5,500	1,200
<i>T-Cloths, 32-inch</i>"	58,335	50,700	42,500				

Reuter's figures for February are: Home export to all China 46,000,000 yards *Plain Cottons*, or 13,000,000 yards to Hongkong and 33,000,000 yards to Shanghai.

The first Newchwang steamers of the season will be despatched hence in the course of the ensuing week.

Grey Shirtings.—8½-lbs.—The business made public is very small, being under 25,000 pieces in the aggregate. But the stocks of desirable stuffs have been run very low, and "China is awakening" to the fact. There is no doubt of it, and the dealers now freely confess to a difficulty in getting what they want, and yet they grudge that extra caudareen or two which would go a little way at least in temporarily easing their minds. They respond but slowly to the higher demands of holders, who, however, remain very firm, and who by their firmness and through the hard necessity under which buyers seem to be struggling have this week established a further rise in rates. The few chops quoted show that the good to fine makes have been mostly dealt in, but demand has run chiefly on the descriptions next lower in the scale, of the which there are very few on hand. Quotations are:—*Red Joss* £1.56, *Blue Swan* £1.56½, *Green Globe* £1.57, *Blue Bear* and *Red Bear* £1.57½ and £1.58½, *Elephant and Snake*, *Blue Three Man*, *Blue Anchor*, and *Blue Dragon* (Taku) £1.60, *Blue Dragon* (Niekie) £1.62½, *Eagle* £1.69 nett, and *Double Blue Dragon* and *No. 1 Blue Butterfly* £1.70 per piece.

At the auction to-day prices evinced an easier tendency.

For the doings in 6-lbs., 7-lbs. and 12-lbs., see the auction details below. No sales in private have been published.

10-lbs.—Business in this item has also been limited, barely 7,000 pieces having been reported, but for all, excepting the very low makes, higher prices have been paid, and the market closes strong. The advance at last Thursday's auction sale was very marked.

White Shirtings.—These have not been in active request, and but little has been done in them. *Mazzeppa* is quoted by sale £1.44½, *Llankee* £1.82½, and *Blue Stag* (Taiwo) £1.83 per piece, the tone of the market being healthy, with holders aspiring to covering rates for all counts. Low reeds are wanted for Yokohama, but at very low prices.

T-Cloths.—7-lbs.—The following business is reported, viz: 4,000 pieces (only) of *English make* at £1.19 for *Three Fishes* and *Bear*, £1.21 for *Red Dragon* and *Blue Three Man* S.T., and £1.28½ for *Fisherman*; 3,000 pieces *Bombay Cloth*, *Yellow Lion* at £1.16½; also 2,500 pieces *Bombay 6lbs.* at £1.06½ for *Yellow Lion*, and £1.07 for *Red Eagle*. Further, the sale of 1,500 pieces 8lbs. *Three Fishes* at £1.37½ is announced, but the T-Cloths market generally has been quiet.

Drills.—English of good to fine quality and American have been in request, and both items have improved in value. The former have advanced fully 2½ c. per piece since this day week, whilst the latter shows a rise of 5 c. per piece, PMCD having yesterday been placed at £2.62½ per piece. A large business (about 30,000 pieces) has been declared in *American Drills*, but a considerable portion thereof (about half) was negotiated (and published in our report) some time ago. Over 6,000 pieces of *English* have been settled, Armitage's *Beaver* improving to £2.52½ per piece.

Jeans.—Enquiry slack and little done.

Sheetings.—Favourable news of the American import having come from Tientsin by wire and steamer a rush was made for it as last mail was closing, and the excitement was kept up until over 70,000 pieces were registered sold, *Indian Head* at one bound reaching £2.85 per piece, *Eagle A* selling at £2.65, *Crescent* at £2.55, *Eagle W* at £2.42½, and *Red Elephant* at £2.35 per piece, the market remaining steady on these levels with an upward inclination in the quotations for the lower classes. An impression gains ground that best chops have seen their highest for the present. The sales of *English* have been insignificant (800 pieces in all), and confined to fine makes, *Elephant and Keeper* being quoted £2.37½, and *Bear Head* £2.65 per piece.

Cotton Yarn.—*Bombay Spinnings* have been in request and considerable sales of 16s. and 20s. have been effected for early clearance at steadily improving rates. The improvement in the course of this week has been fully 2½ mace per bale. No 16s. are quoted from £5½ for inferior up to £56½ for *Red Dragon*, and 20s. from £55½ for *Red Two Boys* up to £58½ for *Red Dragon*. *English Yarns* have not been dealt in, but some little enquiry prevails for two fold and three fold 30s. a 32s.

P.S.—To-day a small lot of three fold—*Man and Fish*—has realized £80 per bale.

Fancy Cottons.—The scarcity of *Plain Cotton Italians* has interfered with business, but it has strengthened rates. The goods are wanted for Tientsin. *Velvets* continue dull of sale both in public and private, and values keep miserably low. With the exception of 250 pieces 5½-lbs. *Green Fisherman* at £2.00, no business has been published in *Turkey Reds*, and that which has been done in *Prints* and *Brocades*—a fair amount we are told—has not been permitted to transpire.

Woollens.—At the auctions their specialties sell readily enough and prices are as a rule well maintained, but with the exception of *Spanish Stripes* and *Italians* it has not been an easy matter to place anything in private, and even the demand for *Stripes* has been of a very capricious character, chops and colors out of stock being frequently asked for, but articles on hand receiving no attention. The Newchwang men are enquiring after *Camlets* of special color and their own particular chops, but otherwise the auctions are supplying all wants. Telegrams from home to-day give very high quotations for all Woollens, the prices named being fully 5% above those current here.

Metals.—From Mr. A. Bielfeld's report:—Since issue of my last report the first Tientsin steamers have returned with very encouraging news from the northern markets and business has been quite active in consequence. The dropping exchange, however, fully counterbalances the rise in the value of some articles. **LEAD.**—This market has shown no particular activity since my last and quotations have undergone very little alteration. L.B. spot has been done at £4.20 to £4.22½ and to arrive at £4.15. February shipment *Enthoven* has been placed at £4.12½. **PIG IRON.**—Is in some demand at quotations and offers for common brands have been raised to £16 per ton. **BAR IRON.**—There is nothing of any consequence on record. Small parcels of *Bar End Cuttings* have been sold at auction at £1.33. **RAILROAD IRON.**—This market is much firmer since return of the Northern steamers and prices for *Sohiers* have advanced to £1.66 a £1.67½, at which rate 300 tons are reported closed. Nothing has been done in other descriptions. **GALVANISED IRON.**—Small sales have been made at £3.20 a £4. **IRON WIRE.**—Further sales have been made, viz, 120 casks No. 16/25 and 200 casks No. 17/25 at £3.80 per picul. **OLD IRON.**—There has not been much change in this market during the week. Native holders meet with demand and prices, if anything, show a firmer tendency. Some 500 tons *Scrap Iron* are reported sold at £1.07½ to £1.10. An auction of *Horseshoes* and other Old Iron is advertised for to-day. **TINPLATES.**—There seems to be a lull in this market. Orders for decorated are so low that they do not suit makers' views at present. **STEEL.**—Is firmer again and 500 boxes *Anchor* put up to auction during the week fetched £2.78. 1,000 boxes large sizes reported sold in my last report were done at £2.72½, not at £2.82½. **SKELTER.**—About 700 tons W.H. are reported contracted for at £4.40, deliverable at Tientsin. **STRAITS TIN.**—There has been a small business doing in *Fok-chok* and *Sok-kong* at rather better rates. **COPPER AND YELLOW METAL SHEATHING.**—Business in *Sheathing* has been of a retail character. *Copper Ingots* have been ordered from home to some extent. **JAPAN COPPER.**—Some 3,000 piculs *Tee Yue* have been bought for Tientsin at £11 90, and 150 piculs *Finger Copper* have been settled at the same rate. Prices are firmer all round and orders sent to Japan during the last few days could not be executed. **SHEET ZINC.**—30 cases No. 4/10 found a buyer at £5.50. **GERMAN SILVER AND NICKEL.**—No business on record.

Miscellaneous.—From Mr. A. Bielfeld's report:—**MATCHES.**—Continue in limited demand. A parcel of black dip Safeties is reported done at £11.50. Deliveries of contract goods and Re-exports compare favourably with the last few months. **SOAP.**—Is without change. Fancy has realised values at auction. London Bar in 56-lb. boxes has been sold at £2.15. **WINDOW GLASS.**—Has been in better demand and settlements are reported of altogether 4,750 box-s at £2.30. **NEEDLES.**—Have been quiet but steady. 20 cases No. 1/10 Blue Bakko Chop are reported sold at £72.50. **DYES AND COLOURS.**—This market has not been very active this week. Sales reported are:—5,000 tins ea. 8 oz. Violet, Chinese Character Chop, at 14 cands., 1,000 tins ea. 8 oz. Violet, Pagoda Chop, at 23 cands., 1,000 tins ea. 8 oz. Violet, Boys Chop, at 30 cands., 5,000 tins ea. 8 oz. Violet, Dog Chop, at 34 cands., 2,500 bottles ea. 2 oz. Blue, Medal Chop, at 132 cands., 10,000 bottles ea. 2 oz. Blue, Chinese Character Chop, at 15 cands., 2,000 bottles ea. 2 oz. Blue, Ball Chop, at 14 cands., 2,000 bottles ea. 2 oz. Blue, Dragon Chop, at 33 cands., 2,500 tins ea. 8 oz. Green, Powder Chop, at 11 cands., 5,000 tins ea. 8 oz. Scarlet, Pheasant Chop, at 14 cands., 2,000 tins ea. 8 oz. Scarlet, Ball Chop, at 20 cands., 2,000 tins ea. 8 oz. Magenta, Ball Chop, at 40 cands., 100 cases Emerald Green, Stork Chop, at £15.50.

Kerosene Oil.—Has been in fairly good demand at improving rates, but no transactions of any magnitude are on record. The quotation is £1.21 for Devos, prompt delivery.

Gyam.—Closing Quotations:—Malwa, new, at £385; old, at £408; Patna, new, at £385; Benares, new, at £365.

EXPORTS.

Silk.—From Messrs. Cromie & Burkill's Circular:—London telegrams quote Silk dull. Gold Kilin—13s. 3d.

RAW SILKS.—The decline in sterling exchange has led to rather more enquiry, and settlements for the week are about 1,000 bales at slightly easier quotations. The unsold stock is reduced to 6,500 bales.

TSATLEE.—Sales amount to over 500 bales at £388½ per picul for Blue Elephant chop.

HANGCHOWS.—No business.

TAISAMS.—Purchases include 20 bales of White Kahings, 40 bales of Chincums and 10 bales of 9×12 Moss.

YELLOW SILKS.—About 120 bales have changed hands at £285 a 290 for Shantung and at £272½ for Mienchow.

Arrivals as per Customs Returns, from the 8th to the 14th March are about 140 bales of White Silks.

RE-REELS.—Shipments by the American Mail of the 11th instant were 264 bales, since when there has been nothing doing.

WILD SILKS.—Settlements are about 250 bales at £105 for common up to £120 for fair ordinary Tusah Raw.

WASTE SILKS.—No change to report. Some low Shantung and Szechuen Wastes have arrived but prices asked are not likely to lead to business. Fine Gum is quoted £110, none offering.

SHANTUNG PONGEES.—Sales of 6,000 pieces are reported at £2.80 a 2.95 for 25/26 oz. goods.

Purchases include:—TSATLEE—Gold Lion I at £397½, Beautiful Woman II at £395, Blue Elephant at £387½, Gold Stork at £380, Gold Elephant at £367½. TAISAMS.—Chincum at £315, 9/12 Moss, Double Butterfly I at £302½. YELLOW SILK.—Shantung at £290, Mienchow at £272½. TUSAH.—Raw fair at £120. RE-REEL TSATLEE.—Best chop at £490, Market III at £370.

	1886-87.	1885-86.	1884-85.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1881-82.
Settlements for this mail †	about 1,000	750	250	500	500	500 bales.
„ for the season †	51,250	50,500	52,250	47,800	45,250	46,200 „
Stock	6,600	5,800	5,000	3,200	19,750	15,000 „
Total Arrivals	57,750	56,300	57,250	51,000	65,000	61,200 „

† Exclusive of purchases for re-sale on this market.

	*England.	*France, &c.	Total Europe.	America.	India & Egypt.	Coast & Straits.	Grand Total.
Export White Silk	4,040	28,709	32,749	4,887	87	561	38,284 bales.
„ Yellow „	16	4,285	4,301	14	1,032	502	5,549 „
„ Wild „	210	5,838	6,048	35	...	45	6,128 „
	4,266	38,832	43,093	4,936	1,119	1,108	50,261 „
Against in 1885-86.....	8,543	30,939	39,482	6,479	2,371	1,211	49,543 „
„ 1884-85.....	8,985	35,721	43,806	4,399	2,590	1,008	51,803 bales.

* Many shipments are now sent optional, Marseilles or London.

Also 3,329 piculs Old Silk Wadding to London.

„ 119 „ „ to Marseilles.

Tea.—**BLACK.**—The market is closed for the season.

GREEN.—The stock remaining at the close of last mail is being gradually shipped off chiefly on native account, and reported settlements amount to about 3,300 half-chests Pingsuey at from £14½ for low common to £23 per picul for fine.

Stock.—2,540 half-chests against 3,018 half-chests in 1885-86.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM SHANGHAI AND YANGTZE PORTS.

	1886-87.	1885-86.
	Black.	Green.
To Great Britain.....	64,979,826	7,330,624
Russia direct	11,616,370	11,616,370
United States.....	3,378,771	15,366,575
	84,974,967	24,313,569
	Black.	Total.
To Great Britain.....	64,979,826	72,310,450 lbs.
Russia direct	11,616,370	8,118,272 „
United States.....	3,378,771	15,366,575 „
	84,974,967	95,795,297 „

Shares.—Hongkong and Shanghai Bank shares have fluctuated again during the week, having been sold at 148 per cent. premium, 14 9, 150, 151, 148, 153 for 31st May, and 147 for cash, all at exchange 73. New Oriental Banks have changed hands at £10½, ex div. In Insurances, Hongkong Fires have been done at \$412½, and China Fires at \$37, exchange 73; and Yangtze at £106. Shanghai Tug-boats have brought \$95, Shanghai and Hongkew Wharfs £157 and £159, and Footing Wharfs £108. Sheridan Mines have been taken at £120, and Perak Tins at \$20 and \$18, exchange 73.

Exchange has steadily declined since the departure of last mail and business has again been small. Rates however close firm. Shipments of silver from Hongkong to India continue on a large scale, sufficient apparently to influence the Indian markets which react on this, and weaken rates here. Native interest is 2 mace equal to 7½ per cent per annum. The latest quotation for Bar Silver is 45½ nominal.

DAILY QUOTATIONS.

(From Messrs. Morris & Fergusson's Weekly Circular.)

	ON LONDON.						FRANCE.		INDIA.	
	T/Transfers.		Bank 4 m/s.		Credits 4 m/s.		Franks 4 m/s. and 6 do.		HONGKONG.	Rupees. T. transfers.
	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.		
Thursday, 10th.....	4.5	4.5½	4.6	4.6	4.6½	4.6½	5.74/5.77	5.75/5.78	27½	302½
Friday, 11th.....	4.4½	4.5	4.5½	4.5½	4.6	4.6½	5.72/5.75	5.74/5.77	27½	302½
Saturday, 12th.....	4.4½	4.4½	4.5½	4.5½	4.6	4.6½	5.71/5.74	5.72/5.75	27½	302½
Monday, 14th.....	4.4½	4.4½	4.5½	4.5½	4.5½	4.6	5.68/5.71	5.71/5.74	27½	303
Tuesday, 15th.....	4.4½	4.4½	4.5½	4.5½	4.5½	4.6	5.68/5.71	5.69/5.72	28	302½
Wednesday, 16th...	4.4½	4.4½	4.5½	4.5½	4.5½	4.6	5.69/5.72	5.70/5.73	28	302½

AUCTION SALES.

COTTON GOODS.

Grey Shirtings.—8½-lbs.—Total for the week, 17,930 pieces.

At E-wo, on the 9th instant, 2,800 pieces; at £1.27½/28 for Green Peacock, £1.41½ for Blue Duck, £1.41½ for Blue Boar, and £1.56½, £1.60½/60½ and £1.66½/67½ for Tea Caddy, Green, Blue, D.D.D. and Double Blue.

At Jin-kee, same day, 250 pieces Gold Scroll at £1.62/62½ per piece.

At Yuen-fong, on 10th instant, 3,180 pieces; at £1.26½ for Two Man, £1.39½, £1.51 and £1.57½ for Loyal Son, blue, red and painted £1.41½/41½ and £1.51/51½ for Britannia, blue and painted, £1.43½ and £1.51½ for Four Sisters, blue and red, £1.47½ and £1.57½ for Three Students, blue and red, £1.64½/65½ for Five Brothers.

At Kin-ming, this forenoon, 3,200 pieces; at £1.46½ for Red Lion, £1.45½/45½ for Blue Crown, £1.53½/53½ for Red Eagle, and £1.54 for Red Ram.

At Pao-shun, this afternoon, 8,500 pieces; at £1.43½ for Lion-on-Bale, £1.63½/63½ and £1.63½ for Green Lion A. and A.A., and £1.67½/67½, £1.67/67½ and £1.67 for Eagle, unlettered X.X. and X.X.X.

6-lbs.—1,000 pieces; at £0.92½ for Red Peacock, £0.96½ for Two Man, and £0.99½ for Three Students.

7-lbs.—1,370 pieces; at £1.21½/22 for Red Tea Caddy, £1.12½ for Loyal Son, £1.14½ for Britannia, £1.24½ for Four Sisters, and £1.30½ for Three Students.

9½-lbs. a 11-lbs.—4,950 pieces; at £1.94 and £2.02½ for Blue Boar, Nos. 1,870 and 1,919, £1.96½/96½ and £2.02½ for Blue Bell, Nos. 750 and 1,000, £1.97½/97½ and £2.05½ for Tea Caddy, X.X., Blue, and Double Blue, £2.10 for Black-Gold Bat and Stag (11lbs.).

£1.73½, £1.94½ and £2.19 for *Loyal Son*, blue, red and painted, £1.75½/75½, £1.93½ and £2.16½/16½ for *Britannia*, blue, red and painted, and £1.98/98½ and £2.25½/26 for *Three Students*, red and painted.

12-lbs.—360 pieces *English*; at £2.36½ for *Stag* and *Flag X.X.X.*, £2.46 for *Double Squirrel*, and £2.42 for *Britannia*.
White Shirtings.—64-reed, 3,000 pieces; at £1.37 and £1.36 for *House*, dressed and undressed, £1.47½/47½ and £1.46 for *Blue Lighthouse*, dressed and undressed.

72-reed and higher.—2,948 pieces; at £1.85 for 5,000 *Double Eagle*, £2.16 and £2.31½ for *Man Head*, plain and 900, £1.90½/90½ for *Red Two Sisters*, £1.92/92½ and £1.96½ for *Red Lighthouse*, dressed and undressed, £2.11½ and £2.13½/14½ for *Red Star*, dressed and undressed.

T-Cloths.—7-lbs.—4,050 pieces; at £1.04½ for *Play Actor*, £1.13½ and £1.26½/27 for *Red and Blue Tea Caddy*, £1.05½ for *Loyal Son*, £1.07 and £1.25½ for *Britannia*, blue and painted, £1.12½ and £1.36½/37 for *Three Students*, blue and red, £1.19½ for *Blue Lion*, £1.32 for *Eagle X.X.X.*, £1.02½ for *Green Ram*, £1.16½/16½ for *No. 1 Sun*, and £1.16½/17½ for *M.T. Blue Flying Horse*.

8-lbs.—950 pieces; at £1.40½/40½ for *Red Tea Caddy*, £1.42 for *Blue Lion*, £1.48 for *Eagle X.X.X.*, and £1.63½ for *Painted Three Students*.

Drills.—*English*, 795 pieces; at £2.09½ for *Blue Dragon*, £1.34½ for *Indian Head*, £2.04 for *Stag*, £2.30½ for *Britannia*, and £2.31½ for *Old Man Head*.

Jeans.—*English*, 360 pieces; at £1.36½ for *Peacock*, and £1.84½/85½ for *Double Squirrel*.

Sheetings.—*English*, 420 pieces; at £2.44½ for *B.M.* (16lbs.), £2.37 for *Lion*, and £2.58½ for *Old Man Head*.

Velvets.—300 pieces *Woman*, at £0.11½ per yard for ordinary, and £0.12.1/12.0½ per yard for *Sin-wo*.

Velveteens.—26-inch., 120 pieces *Stag* at £0.17.3½/17.3½ per yard.

WOOLLENS.

Auctions—	Scarlet.	Dk. Blue.	Gentian.	Green, and N. Green.	Orange and Yellow.	Ash & Lav.	White	Purple	Black.	*Brown & Mag.	Mauve.	Lt. Gt. "Mid. "	Sales. Pcs.
E-wo, 9th instant.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	
Camlets, Horseman...	9.41/46	.....	9.12/13	9.78	9.40	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9.94	.....	90
" Sales, pcs...	30	.....	10	10	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	.....	70
" House...	9.25/26	.....	9.20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9.95	.....	70
" Sales, pcs...	40	.....	40	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	.....	70
" Boar...	9.10	.....	8.60/61	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9.61	.....	70
" Sales, pcs...	30	.....	30	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	.....	200
Long Ells, H.D.B., p.p.	4.93/94	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40
Lastings, Eagle, p.p.	.....	.....	7.33	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40
" Sales, pcs...	.....	.....	8.19	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40
" H.D.B.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40
" Sales, pcs...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	96
S. Stripes, Eagle...	0.4.31/4.32	0.40.2	0.45	0.40.8	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.36.4	.....	.....	.....	96
" Sales, pcs...	42	6	30	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	12	.....	.....	.....	
JIN-KEE, 9th inst.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Camlets, U.U., p.p.	9.71/72½	.....	9.60/61	.....	.....	.....	9.85	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	80
" Sales, pcs...	40	.....	30	.....	.....	.....	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100
" Dove, p.p.	9.26/27	.....	.....	9.57½	9.35	.....	9.31	.....	.....	.....	9.59	.....	100
" Sales, pcs...	50	.....	.....	10	10	.....	10	.....	.....	.....	20	.....	260
L. Ells, U.U., p.p.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	240
" Sales, pcs...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	24
" Dove	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	24
" Sales, pcs...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
S. Stripes, U.U.	0.44.3	0.39.9	0.44.2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
" Sales, pcs...	6	6	12	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
" Round Drg.	0.39.4	.....	.....	.....	0.44	0.46.2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.39½	
" Sales, pcs...	12	.....	.....	.....	3	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	
YUEN-FONG, 10th inst.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Camlets, S.S.G., p.p.	9.90/10.00	10.60/62½	10.17½/22½	10.32½	10.20/25	.....	.....	.....	10.07½	8.12½	10.55/57½	9.85/87½	570
" Sales, pcs...	210	100	140	10	40	.....	.....	.....	10	10	20	30	
" G.G., p.p.	9.90/95	10.62½	10.25/27½	.....	10.47½	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10.77½/80	9.87½	300
" Sales, pcs...	120	60	70	.....	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	20	180
Long Ells, G.G., p.p.	5.11/12	.....	.....	5.19	.....	.....	.....	5.21	.....	.....	.....	.....	200
" Sales, pcs...	140	.....	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	200
Lasting, G.G., p.p.	.....	.....	8.10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9.25/27½	.....	.....	8.77½	100
" Sales, pcs...	.....	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	160	.....	.....	20	100
" Man & Tiger	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6.92½	.....	.....	6.97½	100
" Sales, pcs...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	80	.....	.....	20	100
" Nine Old Men	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7.10/12½	.....	.....	7.05	100
" Sales, pcs...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	80	.....	.....	20	100
S. Stripes, T.T.B.	0.46½/47	0.44/44½	0.48/48½	0.46½	0.47½	0.47½	.....	.....	0.44	.....	0.46½	.....	378
" Sales, pcs...	198	36	90	12	6	12 6	.....	.....	12	.....	6	.....	
MISCELLANEOUS, Yday	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Camlets, R.R.	9.05	7.42½	8.66	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	50
" Sales, pcs...	20	10	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100
Lastings, No. 3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6.70/73	.....	.....	.....	40
" Sales, pcs...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6.43	.....	.....	.....	20
X 4 Double Dragon.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6.46	.....	.....	.....	40
No. 4 D'ble Dragon.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40
Lastings, K.	.....	7.50	6.76	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40
" Sales, pcs...	.....	20	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20
" No. 2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6.76	.....	.....	.....	24
" Sales, pcs...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	48
S. Stripes, 100 p.p.	0.39.6	0.39.6	0.39.6	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.39.6	.....	.....	.....	.....	
" Sales, pcs...	9	1	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	12	.....	.....	.....	.....	
" No. 100 X	0.38.1	.....	0.38.9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
" Sales, pcs...	24	.....	24	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Union Cloths, S.	.....	0.41½/42	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12
" Sales, pcs...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
KIN-MING, to-day.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Camlets, C.P.H. p.p.	10.37½	10.68/69	10.29	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10.60	9.82/10.18	130
" Sales, pcs...	50	20	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	50	20
" Tiger	9.68	8.88	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	390
" Sales, pcs...	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	130
" Eagle	9.75/76	9.51/67½	9.96/97	.....	9.12	9.46	.....	.....	10.15	.....	.....	9.52/54	260
" Sales, pcs...	180	60	60	.....	10	10	.....	.....	10	.....	.....	60	49
" Swan p.p.	9.59/60	8.73/74	9.85	9.76	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9.49/50	38
" Sales, pcs...	60	20	20	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	100
" Duck	9.35/40	8.14/15	9.66	9.61	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9.99	8.98	260
" Sales, pcs...	120	40	40	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	40	49
" Cock	9.21	7.86	9.41	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	38
" Sales, pcs...	30	10	9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100
" Parrot	8.94/95	7.27	9.00/02	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
" Sales, pcs...	50	10	28	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Lastings, C.P.H.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9.51/52	.....	.....	.....	
" Sales, pcs...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	

SIN-VO, to-day.											
Lastings, H.H. p.p.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sales, pcs.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
S.Stripes, H.H.	0.46.8/46.6	0.45.9	0.53.9	0.45.1	0.47.4	.....	.....	.....	0.46.4	.....	.....
Sales, pcs.	78	12	36	12	6	.....	.....	.....	6	.....	150
„ GoldFish, P.P.P.	0.42.9	0.42	0.45.6	0.41.3	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.38	.....	.....
Sales, pcs.	36	6	18	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	.....	72

QUOTATIONS—DUTY PAID.				DUTY.		QUOTATIONS—DUTY PAID.				DUTY.	
				T's. m. c.						T's. m. c.	
G. E. GREY SHIRTINGS—				T.m.c. T.m.c.		PRINTED TWILLS—24/25 yds				T.m.c. T.m.c.	
6-lbs 39-in 38½-yds.....nom	£ pc.	0.9.0	to 1.0.0			50/52 ..	„	1.1.0	„	1.7.0	0.0.7 per 30 yd.
7-lbs	„	0.9.5	„ 1.3.0			Special ..	„	2.6.0	„	3.2.5	
Denhurst's Eagle	„	None	.....					3.5.0	„	3.8.0	
8½ to 8½-lbs	„	1.1.0	„ 1.7.5			TURKEY REDS—					
D. Eagle and XX	„	1.6.7	„ 1.6.7½			24-yd 1½ to 3-lbs. 32-in, nom	£ pc.	0.6.0	„	1.3.5	0.1.5 per pce.
9 to 9½-lbs	nom	1.6.5	„ 1.8.5			Best	„	1.2.5	„	1.8.0	
9½ to 10-lbs	„	1.7.0	„ 2.2.0			VELVETS—Black, 22-in.....nom				£ yd. 0.1.1 „ 0.1.7	
Denhurst's, Best	„	2.0.2½	„ 2.3.5			VELVETEENS—Black, 18-in ..				„ 0.1.0 „ 0.1.4	
11 to 12-lbs English 36 in.	„	2.0.5	„ 2.4.0	0.0.8 per pce.		26-in ..				„ 0.1.5½ „ 0.1.8	
12-lbs American 32/56 in.	„	2.2.0	„ 2.5.0			BLUE DENIMS				nom 0.0.3 „ 0.0.4	
G. E. WHITE SHIRTINGS—						DIMITIES—12-yd 37-in				£ pc. 0.9.0 „ 1.2.0	
40-yds 36-in 56-rd.....	£ pc.	1.2.0	„ 1.3.5			41-in				„ 1.0.0 „ 1.6.0	
50-reed	„	1.2.5	„ 1.4.5			MUSLINS—12-yd 42-in				„ 0.4.7½ „ 0.7.2½	
64 ..	„	1.3.2½	„ 1.7.7½			YARN—COTTON—Nos. 28/32.				62.5.0 „ 72.0.0	
64 „ Best and 66-reed ..	„	1.6.5	„ 1.8.7½			16/24, nom ..				51.0.0 „ 62.5.0	
72 to 80-reed	„	1.8.0	„ 2.2.0			CAMLETS—English, SS.				£ pc. 7.3.0 „ 11.0.0	
Best	„	2.1.0	„ 3.4.0			GG				10.1.3 „ ..	
DRILLS, Am. 40-yd 30-in 14-lbs	£ pc.	2.4.0	„ 2.6.2½			SSG				10.1.3 „ ..	
English, „ 14 to 15-lbs ...	„	1.2.5	„ 1.9.0	0.1.0 „		HDB ..				„ 9.7.7 „ ..	
„ Good to Finest	„	1.8.0	„ 2.5.0			CPH ..				„ 10.3.5 „ ..	
Dutch, 14 to 14½-lbs. nom	„	2.0.0	„ 2.3.0			Dutch, 33 to 2 4-in nom.				15.0.0 „ 18.0.0	
JEANS, Dh., 30-yd. 30-in 8½-lbs	£ pc.	1.5.0	„ 1.7.7½			Do. 37-in.				17.2.5 „ 22.0.0	
English, „ 8 to 8½-lbs ..	„	1.3.0	„ 1.9.0	0.0.7½ „		MEDIUM & BROAD CLOTHS ..				£ yd. 0.6.0 „ 1.4.0	
American „ Beaver	„	1.7.0	„ 2.0.0			SPANISH STRIPES				„ 0.3.0 „ 0.5.5	
SHEETINGS—						HDB				„ 0.4.5½ „ 0.4.8	
Am., 40yd. 36/38in. 14lb. nom.	£ pc.	2.3.0	„ 2.8.5	0.0.8 „		TTB				„ 0.4.4 „ 0.4.8½	
Eng., „ 14 to 16lb.	„	1.5.0	„ 2.5.5			HH				„ 0.4.5½ „ 0.3.9	
T-CLOTHS—						BTI				„ 0.4.2½ „ 0.4.7	
6-lbs 24-yd 32-in Ord., nom	£ pc.	0.7.5	„ 0.9.0			CPH				„ 0.4.2.7 „ 0.4.7	
7-lbs ..	„	0.8.0	„ 0.9.7½	0.0.4 „		LONG ELLS—					
6-lbs Mexican.....	„	none	.....			Scarlet, 24-yd GG.....				£ pc. 5.1.1 „ 5.1.2	
7-lbs ..	„	0.9.5	„ 1.3.5			„ „ HH				nom. 5.6.9 „ 5.7.0	
7-lbs Mexican Special chops ..	„	1.2.5	„ 1.7.5			„ „ CPH ..				„ 5.0.0 „ ..	
8 to 8½-lbs	„	1.2.5	„ 1.6.0			„ „ UU				„ 4.8.7 „ ..	
Better kinds and XX	„	1.6.5	„ 2.0.0	0.0.8 „		„ „ HDB				„ 4.9.3 „ 4.0.0	
HANDKERCHIEFS—						„ „ V				„ 4.8.7½ „ ..	
Blue, 28 to 32-in	£ doz.	0.4.0	to 0.5.7	0.0.2½ per doz.		„ „ Dove				„ 4.8.2 „ 4.8.2½	
Brown	nom	0.3.7½	„ 0.4.1			„ „ Sundries ..				„ 3.5.0 „ 5.4.0	
SPOTTED SHIRTINGS—White. £ pc.	1.5.0	„ 2.0.0	0.1.0 per pce.			Assorted, HH				nom. „ ..	
Dyed, nom	„	2.0.0	„ 2.3.0			„ CPH				„ „ ..	
BROCADES—White, 40-yd ..	„	1.8.5	„ 2.0.0			„ GG				„ „ ..	
Dyed	„	2.2.0	„ 2.4.5			„ UU				„ „ ..	
DAMASKS—Dyed, 40-yd, nom ..	„	2.2.5	„ 3.7.5			LASTINGS, 30-yd				£ pc. 5.0.0 „ 8.5.0	
GENTIAN SHIRTINGS	nom	1.8.5	„ 2.2.0			CRAPE LASTINGS, 30-yd nom ..				„ 2.2.5 „ 5.7.5	
CHINTZ—Assorted	£ pc.	0.9.0	„ 1.4.0			CRAPE LUSTRES				„ .. „ ..	
Blue	„	0.9.0	„ 1.1.5			PLAIN LUSTRES, Black.....				„ 2.7.5 „ 3.4.0	
Brown	nom	1.0.0	„ 1.2.0	0.0.7 per pce.		ORLEANS—Figured, 30-yd ..				„ 2.2.0 „ 2.7.5	
Scarlet	„	0.9.0	„ 1.3.5			Special Colors & Patterns ..				„ 2.5.0 „ 3.3.0	

Per Chang of 141 inches.

Per Chang of 141 inches.

METALS.		QUOTATIONS.		SUNDRIES.		QUOTATIONS.	
		T.m.c.	T.m.c.			T.m.c.	T.m.c.
JAPAN COPPER—Tiles, best		11.5.0	@ 12.2.5	SUGAR—		5.0.0	@ 5.3.0
Ore		11.5.0	„ 12.2.5	White, Canton, No. 1		4.6.0	„ 4.8.5
QUICKSILVER—American in flasks of 75-lbs. net		64.0.0	„ ..	„ „ „ 2		4.1.0	„ 4.3.5
TIN PLATES—Parson's		3.7.0	„ 3.8.0	White, Swatow, No. 1		5.1.0	„ 5.5.0
Other brands		3.6.0	„ 3.7.0	„ „ „ 2		4.6.0	„ 4.9.0
Decorated		5.0.0	„ 6.5.0	„ „ „ 3		4.2.0	„ 4.4.0
STEEL, Plain		2.6.0	„ 2.7.0	Brown, Canton, Best		3.1.0	„ 3.4.0
Bamboo		2.7.5	„ 2.8.0	„ „ Common		2.7.0	„ 2.9.0
TIN, Fong Hing		29.0.0	„ ..	„ Swatow, Best		3.2.0	„ 3.5.0
Fok Chok		28.0.0	„ ..	„ „ Common		2.8.0	„ 3.1.0
Sok-kong and other brands		27.5.0	„ ..	PEPPER—Black		16.2.0	„ 17.5.0
FIG IRON, Gartsherrie No. 1		19.0.0	„ 19.5.0	White		24.8.0	„ 28.5.0
„ No. 3		18.0.0	„ 18.5.0	RATTANS—Common		3.1.0	„ 3.6.0
Common brands		15.5.0	„ 16.0.0	Best		4.3.0	„ 5.4.0
IRON WIRE, Nos. 11 & 21		3.6.0	„ 3.8.0	JAPAN WOOD		2.6.0	„ 3.5.0
„ „ 14 & 25		3.8.5	„ 4.0.0	SANDALWOOD, South Sea		3.3.0	„ 3.7.0
„ „ 18 & 25		3.9.0	„ 4.1.0	Timor		5.2.0	„ 7.5.0
IRON—Nail Rod—				Malabar		14.5.0	„ 17.0.0
Dawson's Best		1.9.0	„ 1.9.5	WINDOW GLASS—			
Rogers'		1.8.0	„ 1.8.5	Good assortments		2.2.5	„ 2.3.0
Belgian, ordinary		1.5.7½	„ 1.6.2½	MATCHES—			
„ Soliers		1.6.2½	„ 1.6.5	Swedish Safety, Black Dip		11.0.0	„ 17.0.0
English—Bar		1.6.0	„ 1.9.0	Do. Red		12.0.0	„ 18.0.0
Belgian		1.6.0	„ 1.7.0	Paraffine		14.0.0	„ 20.0.0
Swedish		2.8.5	„ 3.1.0	Japanese		8.0.0	„ 12.0.0
LEAD—				Vienna Brilliant		13.0.0	„ 18.0.0
I.B.		4.2.0	„ 4.2.2½	KROSENE—Devos'		1.2.1	„ ..
Other brands		4.1.5	„ 4.1.7½	FLINT STONES		0.5.5	„ 0.6.5
				COTTON—Shanghai, best		9.6.0	„ ..
				Compoek		9.8.0	„ ..
				RICE—Shanghai		3.0.0	„ 3.3.0
				Chinkiang		2.7.5	„ 3.1.0
				HIDES—Cow		13.2.0	„ ..

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 14th March, 1887, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 53 to 58, both inclusive.

GOODS.	RE-EXPORTS AND THEIR DESTINATIONS.															
	Ningpo.	Wenchow.	Chinkiang.	Wuhu.	Kinkiang.	Hankow.	Chiao.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Poochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Higo.	Yokohama.	Corea.	Local.
Grey Shirtings †.....Pcs.	7,815	2,750	37,518	10,070	10,740	98,525	4,900	282,030	...	950	...	6,820	2,250	...	250	13,300
T-Cloths, 32-in.	2,195	2,165	7,615	1,735	2,205	9,475	9,560	58,335	...	3,800	...	...	1,580	...	...	2,475
" 36-in.	2,013	...	179	400	1,440	460	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	400
White Shirtings	1,440	1,018	5,866	3,089	2,900	35,338	900	89,065	...	130	1,000	50	450	...	150	1,300
Drills, English & Dutch ..	15	...	525	15	...	250	405	22,670	...	...	90	...	...	...	...	180
" American	270	...	210	45	15	1,950	330	25,200	...	...	...	60	...	...	75	330
Jeans, English & Dutch ..	160	...	...	...	...	100	60	25,040	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
" American	...	...	60	...	...	...	4,700	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Sheetings, English	100	...	850	1,450	520	6,140	1,970	6,010	...	39	...	...	100	...	...	80
" American	500	...	40	...	...	...	1,580	117,572	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	420
Dyed Shirtings	...	50	5,480	30	30	...	...	1,597	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brocades & Sp. S'tings, White	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Dyed	...	50	483	50	160	540	646	4,880	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Damasks, Dyed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	120
Chintzes	110	...	1,976	435	360	3,216	909	18,471	...	50	...	...	10	...	60	350
Printed T-Cloths	157	...	480	60	110	2,100	350	18,633	...	50	...	...	...	...	...	240
Printed Twills	...	160	1,056	400	137	720	160	4,259	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	180
Turkey Red Shirtings	77	590	1,344	270	650	4,240	1,597	20,295	...	200	...	...	800	...	...	150
Velvets	...	...	...	84	114	344	120	360	...	30	...	...	...	...	...	60
Velveteens	...	...	24	...	...	49	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Handkerchiefs	400	200	1,727	1,950	1,940	5,460	600	5,551	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	800
Muslins	...	100	800	500	200	1,275	...	7,408	...	...	...	12200	6,597	...	1000	200
Dimities	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	150	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Cotton Yarn	3	...	...	...	141	816	1,638	8,184	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...
Spanish Stripes	24	96	378	96	84	390	72	948	...	36	...	...	108	...	...	36
Medium and Broad Cloths ..	6	...	72	6	18	398	30	360	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
Camlets	90	240	212	310	630	2,320	30	1,870	...	30	120	...	50	...	...	150
Long Ellis	80	...	240	160	220	980	...	520	...	60	...	20	40	...	...	60
Lastings	...	60	90	80	320	2,690	60	2,981	...	120	...	...	60	...	40	40
" Crape	...	...	59	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lastings, Cotton & Italians ..	90	80	1,070	180	80	3,911	894	37,692	...	30	...	...	520	...	280	240
Lastings, Plain	...	60	...	...	...	60	200	130	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
" Figured	...	60	1,039	120	120	260	180	1,840	...	60	...	...	...	...	...	60
" Crape	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lead in Pigs	112	14	549	...	659	1,368	127	738	...	842	...	...	...	...	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod	857	84	1,983	59	189	2,225	823	714	...	42	...	...	...	...	...	...

GOODS.	TOTAL DELIVERIES.			TOTAL IMPORTS.			STOCKS AT DATE ARE BASED ON THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RETURNS, OF 1ST JAN., 1887.	
	As above.	For Year From 1st Jan., 1887.	Against last year same terms.	For the week.	For Year From 1st Jan., 1887.	Against last year same terms.	*At date Estimated.	Against 15th March, 1886.
Grey Shirtings †.....Pcs.	477,898	1,002,085	807,085	24,400	792,007	826,027	950,900	984,000
T-Cloths, 32-in.	101,140	212,400	169,291	14,425	277,921	189,364	358,150	279,900
" 36-in.	4,892	24,291	25,805	1,600	78,730	61,345	144,210	119,600
White Shirtings †.....	143,046	269,446	278,904	3,138	185,502	315,785	178,178	455,200
Drills, English and Dutch ..	24,150	51,135	43,195	3,588	45,175	89,695	114,360	79,650
" American †.....	28,485	35,265	42,780	...	69,420	96,450	45,500	63,165
Jeans, English and Dutch ..	25,460	28,550	25,277	2,110	32,010	22,310	16,400	20,100
" American	4,750	5,240	2,820	...	1,000	...	2,860	5,200
Sheetings, English	17,259	49,174	34,975	1,206	46,442	59,663	36,400	102,800
" Am.	120,112	134,287	151,285	...	99,731	233,350	95,230	314,310
Dyed Shirtings	7,187	22,644	16,213	494	16,175	20,854	5,760	10,600
Bro. & Spot. Shls, White ..	200	599	900	...	497	3,285	1,400	4,820
" Dyed	6,859	12,147	6,363	...	4,926	6,755	6,660	13,020
Damasks, Dyed	120	400	510	...	50	...	220	130
Chintzes	25,947	42,864	34,146	8,449	35,834	85,027	66,760	103,800
Printed T-Cloths	22,180	28,143	14,636	4,248	36,324	13,996	87,600	57,930
Printed Twills	7,072	13,394	19,124	...	6,204	45,907	72,600	102,900
Turkey Red Shirtings	30,213	67,463	57,268	5,453	46,576	63,922	125,090	174,600
Velvets	1,112	4,313	7,006	690	4,254	11,934	22,570	20,250
Velveteens	123	680	1,114	379	1,699	10,243	3,730	11,200
Handkerchiefs	18,628	46,312	36,357	...	75,292	37,789	151,560	98,300
Muslins	30,280	75,737	59,300	1,400	30,598	92,226	58,700	113,700
Dimities	250	450	550	...	607	495	5,800	...
Cotton Yarn	10,791	24,788	21,312	1,453	27,165	28,257	14,190	26,600
Spanish Stripes	2,268	6,462	7,356	366	5,544	12,392	19,760	19,500
Medium and Broad Cloths ..	938	2,184	2,789	136	3,936	5,818	22,030	17,500
Camlets	6,052	19,385	16,510	3,560	23,567	18,876	27,370	18,800
Long Ellis	2,380	10,696	11,390	2,540	16,280	15,069	19,280	9,200
Lastings	6,541	13,131	16,035	1,990	24,772	26,682	65,530	36,200
" Crape	59	99	200	...	...	160	560	1,100
Cotton Lastings & Italians ..	45,067	69,178	66,332	5,196	54,992	109,561	88,740	198,200
Lastings, Plain	510	680	550	45	377	650	250	1,500
" Figured	3,739	8,937	10,838	500	5,306	18,378	34,800	34,500
" Crape	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	800
Lead in Pigs	4,409	20,088	27,973	3,364	23,732	29,859	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod	6,976	24,772	30,570	12,768	29,150	57,196	...	...

* Exclusive of undeclared Import Cargoes per *Orvus*, *Braunschweig*, *Hector*, *Ningchow*, *Virgo*, *Melbourne*, *Hydasps*, *Antenor*, *Palamed*, and *Glenlyon*.

Import Cargoes declared this week: *Telamon*, and *Coromandel*, and additional ex *Nepaul*, *Oceanian*, *Laertes*, *Dardanus*, and *Kaisow*.

† Including English and Dutch 12-lbs.

‡ Errata in last Report:—

White Shirtings.—Stocks—For 308,100 pieces—Read 318,100 pieces.

American Drills.—Imports: For week—For 49,155 pieces—Read 35,655 pieces.

For year—For 82,920 pieces—Read 69,420 pieces.

Stock—For 86,500 pieces—Read 73,000 pieces.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

16TH MARCH, 1887.

EXCHANGE.—On London—Telegraphic Transfer, 4s. 4½d. Bank Bills, demand, 4s. 4½d. Bank Bills, 4 months' sight, 4s. 5½d. First-Class Credits to Banks, 4 months' sight, 4s. 5½d. 6 months' sight, 4s. 6½d. Private and Documentary, 4 months' sight, 4s. 6d. 6 months' sight, 4s. 6½d. On France—Bank Bills, demand, Fcs. 5.58. Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 5.59/70, 6 months' sight, 5.72/73. On New York—Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 91½. On Hongkong—Telegraphic Transfer, 28; Private Bills, 3 days, sight 28½. On Bombay—Telegraphic Transfer, Rs. 302½; Calcutta, Rs. 302½. Bullion—Gold Bar, Pekin, 98 touch, £221.00. Silver Bars, £111.10. Mexican Dollars, £72.275. Copper Cash, 1,420. Native Interest, mace 2.

SHARES.

Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation.—The market steadily improved from the 9th to the 14th, and shares were placed at 148 to 151½ prem. and ex. 73 for cash, 155½ and the private rate of exchange on Hongkong for 31st March, and 159½ prem. for delivery on 31st August. On the 14th rumours of a failure in Manila caused the market in Hongkong to fall to 147½ prem., and shares were placed here at 153½ prem. for 31st May. Yesterday the market improved in Hongkong to 149½ prem. We quote 147½ and ex. 73 as the closing rate here.

New Oriental Bank Corporation.—A dividend of 2½% for the half year to 30th September last was paid on the 17th February last. Shares were placed yesterday at £10½ and ex. 4½ ex div.

Shanghai Tug Boat Association.—One or two lots have been placed at £95. Shares are offering at that rate.

Yangtze Insurance Association, Limited.—Shares have been sold at £106, and more are wanted.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Limited.—A lot was placed at \$412½ and ex. 73. Shares are wanted on the same terms, and are held for \$415 and ex. 73.

China Fire Insurance Co., Limited.—Business has been done in this stock at \$86½ to \$87 and ex. 73.

Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Shares have been sold at £158, and are wanted at the same rate.

Footung Wharf & Godown Co.—A sale has been made at £110 for delivery on 30th June.

Perak Tin Mining and Smelting Co.—Shares have changed hands at \$20 and \$18.

Sheridan Mining Co.—Business has been done in this stock at £120, and shares are wanted.

SHARES.	No.	Value.	Paid up.	POSITION PER LAST REPORT.			LAST DIVIDEND, &c.		CASH QUOTATIONS.
				Reserve.	At Working Account.	Date.	To Shareholders.	When pd. or due.	
Bank.									
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Co.	60,000	\$125	\$125	4,500,000.00	\$25,313.43	31 Dec. 86	* £1½	28 Feb. 87	147½ prem.
New Oriental Bank Corp., Ltd.	50,000	£10	£10	.....	£106,155.18	31 Mar. 86	* 2½	17 Feb. 87	£10½
Shipping.									
Shanghai Tug Boat Association	1,000	£100	£100	£5,100.00	£4,625.74	31 Mar. 86	* 3%	14 Jan. 87	£95
Indo-China Steam Nav. Co. ...	60,000	£10	£10	.....	£3,387.59	31 Dec. 85	+ 7%	2 Aug. 86	£35
Shanghai Shipping Co.	150	£1,000	£1,000	.....	£114.88	31 Dec. 86	+ 2%	14 Feb. 87	£300 nominal.
China Shippers' Mutual S.N. Co.	50,000	£20	£10	£11,764.15.1	£1,234.10.1	31 Dec. 85	5%	30 Apr. 86	£7½
Docks.									
Shanghai Dock Co.	440	£500	£500	£18,000.00	£234.45	31 Dec. 86	* 2%	14 Jan. 87	325
Footung Dock Co.	950	£100	£100	£1,900	£387.77	31 Dec. 86	* 5%	14 Jan. 87	120½
Gas.									
Shanghai Gas Co.	2,000	£100	£100	£51,794.47	£47,565.04	31 Dec. 85	* 6%	13 Jan. 87	184
Compagnie du Gaz	500	£100	£100	£17,967.07	£76.65	31 Dec. 86	* 6%	1 Mar. 87	161½
Insurance (Marine.)									
China Traders' Insurance Co., Limited.	24,000	\$83.33	\$25	\$600,000.00	\$187,524.75	30 Apl. 86	20%	30 Aug. 86	\$64
North-China Ins. Co., Ltd.	5,000	£200	£50	£102,512.26	£406,132.00	30 June 86	£22.05	30 Apl. 86	£262½
Union Ins. Society of Canton Ltd.	10,000	£250	£25	£614,000.00	£314,012.96	30 June 86	£6½	2 Oct. 86	£83
Yangtze Insurance Ass'n Ltd.	8,000	£25	£25	£85,000.00	£92,142.93	31 Mar. 85	* 3½%	21 July 86	£106
Chinese Insurance Co., Limited	1,500	\$1,000	\$200	\$28,711.50	\$2,868.89	31 Dec. 85	* 3%	8 Oct. 86	£177½
Canton Insurance Office	10,300	£250	£50	£188,000.00	£194,906.00	30 Sep. 86	+ 10%	11 Jan. 87	£75
Straits Insurance Co., Limited.	30,000	\$100	\$20	\$200,000	\$75,832.52	30 June 86	* 6%	31 Dec. 86	\$30
Insurance (Fire.)									
Hongkong Fire Ins. Co., Limited	8,000	£250	£50	\$1,000,000.00	\$328,567.46	31 Dec. 86	+ 55%	7 Mar. 87	\$412½
China Fire Ins. Co., Limited	20,000	\$100	\$20	\$612,500.00	\$253,738.44	31 Dec. 86	+ 30%	3 Mar. 87	\$87
Straits Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.	20,000	\$100	\$20	.....	\$7,713.40	31 Dec. 86	.....	First year	\$17
Wharfs.									
Shanghai & N'kew Wharf Co.	2,867	£100	£100	£87,589.75	£151.26	31 Dec. 86	* 3½	23 Feb. 86	£156
Birt's Wharf Hide-Curing and Wool-Cleaning Company	2,100	£50	£50	£3,449.46	£308.81	31 Oct. 86	* 3½	20 Nov. 86	£22
Footung Wharf & Godown Co.	2,300	£100	£100	£12,000	£1,463.22	31 Dec. 86	* 6%	8 Feb. 87	£108
Mining.									
Perak Tin Mining & Smelting Co.	5,000	\$50	\$50	.....	£2,552.08	31 Dec. 85	None.	.....	\$18
Sheridan Mining Co.	2,800	£100	£100	.....	£1,600.76	31 Dec. 86	£5	11 Jan. 87	£120
Cargo Boats.									
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.	1,000	£200	£200	£9,300.65	.....	31 Dec. 86	* 5%	23 Feb. 87	£162
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.	1,000	£100	£100	£2,000	£835.32	31 Dec. 86	* 2%	17 Feb. 87	£55
Miscellaneous.									
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.	6,000	£20	£20	£5,000.00	£574.4.10	31 Dec. 86	+ 1½	18 May 86	£27½
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.									
New Shares	1,200	£20	£5	.....	.....	.....	None.	.....	£74
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co.	5,000	£50	£50	.....	£122,192.29	.....	None.	.....	£18
Hall & Holtz Co-op'tive Co., Ltd.	6,000	£50	£50	.....	£2,632.52	28 Feb. 85	£2½	30 Apl. 86	£24

LOANS.	Amount of Loan.	Outstanding.	Nominal Value.	Rate of Interest.	When Payable.	Closing.
Shanghai Mun. Debentures—Issue 1878	£ 24,000.00	£ 24,000.00	£ 100	8%	Dec. & June.	£103
Do. 1882	£ 60,000.00	£ 60,000.00	£ 100	7%	1 ^o .	£105 nom.
Do. 1883	£ 45,000.00	£ 45,000.00	£ 100	7%	Do.	£105 "
Do. 1885	£ 30,000.00	£ 30,000.00	£ 100	7%	Do.	£105 "
China Merchants' S.N. Co. Debentures	£ 300,000	All.	£ 100	7%	Quarterly	£106
Chinese Imperial Government Loan 1881	S. \$4,384,000	S. \$548,000.00	\$ 500	8%	May & Nov.	\$510
Do. do. 1884 A	\$1,394,700.14	\$ 488,145.05	\$ 500	8%	Yearly.	\$ 500 nom.
Do. do. 1884 B	1,394,700.14	All.	\$ 500	8%	Do.	\$525 "
Do. do. 1884 C	1,594,700.14	All.	\$ 500	8%	Do.	\$540 "
Do. do. 1885	1,394,700.14	All.	\$ 500	8%	Do.	500 ex int., nom.
Do. do. 1886 E	S. \$767,200	All.	£ 250	7%	Mar. & Sept.	£263

° For half-year. || For quarter year. + For year. † A deficit. § Reserve for equalization of dividends. (a) At credit of underwriting account.

J. P. BISSET & Co.